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Note by the Secretary-General

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* Reports submitted by non-governmental organizations are issued without formal editing.

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1. Christian Children's Fund

Special consultative status granted in 1985

Aims and Mission

Christian Children's Fund (CCF) is an international child development organization which works for the well-being of 10.5 million children in 33 countries worldwide regardless of race, creed or gender. CCF understands that poverty is a complex problem, and has more than 65 years of experience in identifying and addressing its root causes. Within the context of alleviating child poverty, vulnerability and deprivation, CCF creates programs in a variety of different areas that provide practical assistance to impoverished communities, and plant the seeds of self-sufficiency. CCF's integrated development model is made up of interventions in six primary sectors: Early Childhood Development, Education, Family Income Generation, Health & Sanitation, Nutrition; Emergency and Disaster Relief.

Summary

CCF contributes to the work of the United Nations in a number of ways. Representatives of the organization participate in United Nations forums, events, conferences and commissions such as the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW), Commission for Social Development (CSD), and the Permanent Forum for Indigenous Peoples. CCF has also organized workshops at United Nations (UN) conferences on specific issues to promote awareness of issues or best examples from the field. CCF has collaborative relationships with a number of UN agencies including UNICEF, WFP, and UNHCR. Regularly, CCF cooperates through various forums such as the Board of the NGO Committee on UNICEF and the NGO Committee on Social Development.

2001/2002

In 2001 and 2002, CCF continued to serve as the President of the NGO Committee on UNICEF. CCF organized and participated in the NGO Steering Committee of the NGO Committee on UNICEF for the UN General Assembly Special Session on Children (UNGASS). This NGO Steering Committee in collaboration with UNICEF facilitated the meaningful participation of hundreds of NGOs in the three Preparatory Meetings (First Prepcom: May 2001; Second Prepcom: January 2001; Third PrepCom: 11-15 June 2001) and in UNGASS (8-12 May 2002) in New York. The NGO Steering Committee facilitated regional and issue-based caucuses, the publication of a daily newsletter, orientation sessions as well as workshops in New York. CCF representatives participated in all PrepComs and the UNGASS session. Ms. Margery Kabuya, CCF Regional Representative for Eastern Africa, was one of 15 NGO representatives to make an oral presentation on the well-being of children to the delegates at UNGASS.

2003

In 2003, CCF was elected Vice-chair of the NGO Working Group on Girls (WGG) of the NGO Committee on UNICEF in New York. The WGG promotes the implementation of Section L of the

Beijing Platform of Action. Within this framework CCF provided leadership in preparation, publishing and distribution of a brochure on girls and HIV/AIDS entitled *Empowering Girls to Beat HIV/AIDS*.

CCF staff also participated in the 56th Annual DPI/NGO Conference entitled "Human Security and Dignity: Fulfilling the Promise of the United Nations" 8–10 September 2003 in New York. The CCF Senior Advisor for Protection, made a presentation at a luncheon workshop on "Community-based Healing for Survivors of Sexual Violence--A View from Sierra Leone".

2004

As a contribution to Millennium Development Goal (MDG) No. 1 (Eradication of Poverty) and to understand in greater depth how children experience poverty, CCF launched a study on children and poverty. Rather than build on normative ideas and assumptions, CCF chose to develop a framework for child poverty based on a combination of recent theoretical understandings in social science and the actual experiences of children in the communities in which CCF operates. Findings of this research were published in a series of three papers: 1. *Children and Poverty: Shaping a Response to Poverty: A Conceptual Overview and Implications for Responding to Children Living in Poverty*. 2. *A Review of Contemporary Literature and Thought on Children and Poverty: Rethinking the Causes, Experiences and Effects*. 3. *Voices of Children: Experiences and Perceptions for Belarus, Bolivia, Kenya and Sierra Leone*. CCF has presented key findings of the Study in panels, workshops, conferences within the UN structure and outside. For example, CCF organized a workshop on children and poverty entitled "Children and Millennium Development Goal No. 1 - Eradicating extreme poverty and hunger. How do children perceive poverty? Are the usual income poverty measures gender and child sensitive? Actions from the field" for the 57th Annual DPI/NGO Conference "Millennium Development Goals: Civil Society Takes Action", 8-10 September 2004 at United Nations Headquarters. A UNICEF staff and NGO representatives participated in the panel.

To continue to promote the needs and rights of girls, CCF undertook the following activities:

1. During the 48th Session of the Commission on the Status of Women (1-12 March 2004) in New York, CCF in collaboration with other NGOs sponsored two workshops on the following themes: 1. Men and Boys - Obstacles or Partners in Girls' Empowerment and 2. Conflict Resolution. CCF also supported the Statement Number E/CN.6/2004/NGO/20 on the girl child and rights.

2. During the Third Session of the UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues (10 - 21 May 2004) at the United Nations, NY, CCF collaborated with WGG in organizing a workshop entitled "Turning the Spotlight on the Needs and Rights of Indigenous Girls". On 10 May 2004, four indigenous girls from Africa, Central America, United States of America and Canada described their roles in their communities. They talked about the obstacles they face and how they can surmount these challenges.

In June 2004 CCF was elected again as a member of the Board of the NGO Committee on UNICEF and took on the role of Co-chair.

At the Third Session of the UNICEF Executive Board (13-17 September 2004) in New York, CCF presented an oral statement on Early Childhood Development (ECD). CCF described the nature of comprehensive, community based, flexible ECD programmes. The statement emphasized the need to build upon local traditions and resources. It also encouraged governments to continue to invest in such ECD programmes.

In celebration of the Tenth Anniversary of the International Year of the Family, on 14 September 2004, UNICEF hosted an informal consultation entitled "The Child in the Family" at the UN Secretariat Building. The panelists included Ms. Carol Bellamy of UNICEF, Mr. Johan Scholvinck of the Division for Social Policy & Development and Mr. John Scultz, of CCF. His presentation was entitled "Family as a Foundation for Care".

During 2001-2004, CCF continued to have collaborative partnerships in humanitarian assistance with the following UN agencies: UNICEF in Timor-Leste, Afghanistan, Liberia, and Sierra Leone; UNHCR in Afghanistan and Sierra Leone; UNDP in Afghanistan, Honduras, Sierra Leone, Ukraine and Liberia; and WFP in Kenya, Uganda, and Honduras.

2. Fundacion Intervida

Special status granted in 2001

Part I

Areas of Activity

Intervida's daily work is performed in accordance with the objective of improving the living conditions of the communities we support, according to the Millennium Goals. Fundación Intervida's main areas of work, performed in association with local partners, are structured upon three fundamental axes:

Education: Intervida generates educational material to support national education networks. As part of this area of activity, it runs material distribution campaigns and campaigns to improve educational infrastructure (building classrooms, hygiene facilities, perimeter walls, patios, etc.). It also provides training for teachers in new pedagogical areas, as well as providing training for parents.

Health and nutrition: Our projects are aimed at improving health indices by means of curative and preventive action. In addition, our efforts are directed towards promoting the quality of the aid network in each country via training for nurses and other health professionals involved in rural healthcare and by supporting national public health institutions. Similarly we build drinking water systems to meet communities' water needs. We supplement nutritional requirements, when the need arises, by distributing food supplies.

Production: Based on the needs of the community, production projects are oriented towards generating financial earnings via the creation of cooperatives in areas such as agriculture, livestock

farming, forestry and artisan trade. The objective is to ensure the financial self-sufficiency of these groups over the medium and long term by commercializing production surpluses.

Similarly we employ various lateral axes, the main ones being:

- Infrastructure
- Community organization and training.
- Culture.

I. FUNDACION INTERVIDA IS A MEMBER OF THE FOLLOWING ASSOCIATIONS

International:

- CIFCA (Copenhagen Initiative for Central America)
- CRIN (Child Rights Information Network)
- CONGO (Conference of Non-Governmental Organizations in Consultative Relationship with the UN)
- NGOCRC (NGO Group for the Convention on the Rights of the Child)
- EFC (European Foundation Centre)

National:

- Asociación Española de Fundaciones, AEF (Spanish Association of Foundations, previously CONFED)
- Foro de Evaluación de la Gestión Ética, FORETICA (Ethical Management Evaluation Forum)
- Asociación Española Directivos Comunicación, DIRCOM (Spanish Association of Communications Executives)
- Asociación Española de Directivos, AED (Spanish Association of Executives).
- Asociación de Profesionales del Fundraising, APF (Spanish Association of Fundraising Professionals).

PART II

II. PARTICIPATION IN UNITED NATIONS FORUMS

III. Conference Against Racism, Durban, South Africa, August/September 2001

Intervida took part in the Government Conference Against Racism sponsored by the UN. It was an active participant in the plenary sessions, at which governments' final declarations were debated. Beforehand it had taken part in the NGO conference specifically focused on the Gender Caucus, as part of the REPEM- Red de Educación Popular para Mujeres (Network of Popular Education for Women) and in the Caucus de Pueblos Indígenas (Indigenous Population Caucus), at which it actively participated in drawing up the final global declaration made by the young people from the indigenous population.

IV. Commission on the Status of Women (CSW), 48 Session, 1 to 12 March 2004

Intervida participated both in the General Assembly's regular session and in the parallel programme organized by NGOs. At this level, the organization participated in the Millennium Goals debate and in discussion panels focused on gender-related employment models.

The general subject area was strengthened by Intervida's gender policies in terms of both the development activities it runs and the workshops organized to facilitate training for Intervida personnel in this area. Fundación Intervida concentrated specifically on current trends in male/female employment, links to millennium goals and strengthening equality.

V. OTHER ACTIVITIES PERFORMED IN ASSOCIATION WITH UNITED NATIONS AGENCIES

United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)

Guatemala

- Municipal Government Task Force (2003): The objective was to act as a coordination and strategic alliance platform to strengthen compliance with children's rights. Intervida offered direct support to the Proyecto Nacional de Políticas Públicas a favor de la Niñez y Juventud (National Project on Public Policies in favor of Children and the Youth Population) implementing the project through its "Sharing Values" programme. Also, Intervida participated with UNICEF in the launch of a Red de Municipios y Alcaldes Amigos de la Niñez y Juventud (Network of Children and Youth Population Friendly Municipalities and Communities) promoted by the Municipal Government Task Force.

El Salvador

- Evaluation Workshop (17th of November 2004): UNICEF runs this activity to jointly evaluate the effectiveness and efficiency of projects developed in El Salvador, implemented in association with

national collaborators. Thus, Intervida participated as a national collaborator in the Mid-term Evaluation Workshop within the framework of the UNICEF cooperation programme in El Salvador.

- Cooperation Agreement (2003): Collaboration with UNICEF to define the cooperation guidelines for the set up of the Casa de Encuentro Juvenil (Youth Centre) located in the Municipal Area of Tecoluca, in the Department of San Vicente, under the Youth Centre framework.

- Acknowledgement Letter (26th of August 2003): Creation of inter-institutional commitments between the parties involved (UNICEF, Intervida, GTZ, Mayor's Office of the Municipal Area of Tecoluca) to set up and implement the "Casa Cultural de Encuentro Juvenil del Municipio de Tecoluca" (Youth Culture Centre for the Municipal area of Tecoluca) project.

Peru

- Mesas de Diálogo por la Infancia (Round Table Discussions on Childhood) (2003 – 2005): Organized in association with the Seminario de Alto Nivel entre el Sector Público y Privado (High-Level Seminar between the Public and Private Sector) with the participation of the State, civil society and the corporate sector. In addition, a Geo-referential Map was designed to identify the organizations working with children at the national level, and to identify the projects they run and where they run them.

- "Buen Inicio" (Good Start) Project (2000): The project was initiated in Intervida's area of activity in three districts of the province of Andahuaylas. The group of Intervida professionals in the area received training from the UNICEF team. From 2003 onwards the team of Intervida professionals in the area incorporated the four components of UNICEF's "Good Start" programme into their work: research, training, communication and educational information and community supervision. They carried out work in three different communities in the three districts of the province of Andahuaylas.

Bolivia

- Cooperation and Work Agreement with the platform "Alianza Boliviana con la Niñez y la Adolescencia", ABNA (The Bolivian Alliance for Children and Adolescents (2003 – 2005): Platform created by UNICEF in which national and international institutions take part in interventions in the area of children and adolescents throughout Bolivia.

Bangladesh

- Polio Vaccination Programme (2002): Programme organized jointly by UNICEF, OMS, Rotary International, the Japanese government, the Dutch government and the government of Bangladesh, in which various non-government organizations cooperate. Intervida has cooperated in three centers, one in the marginal urban community of Shahjadpur and two in Korail Bosti.

Mali

- Collaboration Agreement (2004): Joint project "Movilización de las ONGs para la puesta en marcha de las escuelas amigas de los niños y las niñas en el ámbito de Ségou" ("Mobilization of NGOs to implement schools for girls and boys in the area of Ségou") performed by UNICEF and Intervida together. The project fits into the framework "Escuela amiga de los niños, amiga de las niñas" of the Mali-UNICEF 2003-2007 cooperation programme.

United Nations Development Programme (UNDP).

Guatemala.

- Letter of Agreement: Part of the project on children's rights and human rights in general run by Intervida in 55 schools, the agreement covers the use of educational material provided by the UNDP "Desarrollo Humano y Pacto Fiscal" (Human Development and Fiscal Agreement), and provides training for Intervida personnel, which is subsequent passed on to beneficiary teachers.

World Health Organization (WHO).

Guatemala.

- Comisión Nacional de Escuelas Saludables, CONAES (National Commission for Healthy Schools): Intervida forms part of the Board of Directors of the Commission, composed of international organisms, private companies and NGOs, which follows up the directives of the Departments of Education and Health.

Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO).

Guatemala.

- "Situación del Derecho a la Alimentación en Guatemala" (The Right to Food in Guatemala) Forum (3rd of February 2004): Speech by Professor Jean Ziegler, United Nations Special Rapporteur on the Right to Food.

Bolivia.

- Micro Farm Project in El Alto (2004): Creation of integral technical agriculture support through the establishment of hydroponic and inorganic cultivation. Intervida is in the process of signing a letter of intent.

United Nations Educational Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO).

Guatemala.

- Interagency Network for Education (2004): A platform for work on Department of Education strategies (MINEDUC) and to coordinate work on education with different NGOs and cooperation agencies. Intervida and UNESCO jointly coordinate the Network.

Various United Nations Agencies.

El Salvador.

- Programa Interagencial de Empoderamiento de la Mujer Adolescente, PIEMA (Interagency Programme for the Empowerment of Adolescent Women) (2004): Programme involving UNICEF, UNDP, UNFPA, UNOPS and WFP. Intervida supports the programme's activities in the municipal areas of Apastepeque and Tecoluca, in the department of San Vicente, and in the municipal area of Tepecoyo, in the department of La Libertad.

INTERVIDA ACTIVITIES IN LINE WITH THE MILLENNIUM GOALS

INTERVIDA contributes to the UN's Millennium Development Goals in the four major regions were the Foundation is settled: Central America, South America, Africa and Asia. Major actions have been undertaken mainly in four of the MDGs. A broad overview is provided below:

- **Goal 1. Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger**
    - Target 1: Halve the proportion of people whose income is less than 1 dollar a day.

      ACTIONS:
        - Integral Production Projects = 474
    - Target 2. Halve the proportion of people who suffer from hunger

      ACTIONS:
        - Children fed or given nutritional care = 162,079
        - Expectant mother care = 7,950
        - Nutrition training for mothers = 7,772
        - Implementation of school kitchens = 327

- **Goal 2. Achieve universal primary education**

  - Target 3. Ensure that children everywhere, boys and girls alike, will be able to complete a full course of primary schooling.

    ACTIONS:

    - School material packs delivered = 2,408,697
    - Classrooms built or renovated = 2,270
    - Children registered in Intervida centers = 6,197
    - Teachers trained = 16,279

- **Goal 5. Improve maternal health**

  - Target 6. Reduce by three quarters the maternal mortality ratio.

    ACTIONS:

    - Provision of general medical care = 1,586,285
    - Training for community midwives = 376

- **Goal 7. Ensure environmental sustainability**

  - Target 10. Halve the proportion of people without sustainable access to safe drinking water and sanitation.

    ACTIONS:

    - Drinking water systems = 179
    - School sanitary services = 406
    - Integral community healthcare systems = 25

VI. FORECAST FOR THE FUTURE

Fundación Intervida intends to continue to participate to an even greater extent in United Nations activities in areas of common interest, such as child labor, women and indigenous communities, all of which are priority groups for Intervida. In addition Intervida's interventions in developing countries will continue to make efforts to achieve the UN's Development Goals for the millennium.

3. Inter-African Committee on Traditional Practices Affecting the Health of Women and Children

Special consultative status granted in 1993

The Inter-African Committee on Traditional Practices Affecting the Health of Women and Children (IAC) is a non-governmental organization (NGO) with international outreach in its membership and operations. It was created in 1984 following the decisions of delegates from 20 African countries gathered in Dakar, Senegal. IAC's programme plans and operations are aimed at impacting desired change of social attitudes and practice in favour of promoting the status of women, fighting harmful traditional practices (HTPs) such as female genital mutilation (FGM), early and forced marriage, nutritional taboos, and widowhood rites; while promoting positive ones, such as child spacing and breast feeding remain to be IAC's core activities.

IAC initiatives are aimed at addressing and convincing grassroots communities, policy makers, and international decision making bodies. IAC works through its 28 National Chapters (NC) in Africa and with 13 affiliates in Europe, Japan, New Zealand and Canada.

IAC enjoys observer status with the organization of African Union (AU) and official relationship with the World Health Organization (WHO). An agreement of understanding was signed between IAC and the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) in 1985. An official letter of agreement for cooperation in action was signed between IAC, UNICEF, UNFPA and WHO on May 2005. Negotiations for this cooperation started in 2003. The letter identifies areas of operation for each partner to implement a Common Agenda for Action for the elimination of HTPs.

IAC served as vice-chair of the NGO special committee on Human Rights for 6 years. It is at present vice-chair of the Special Committee on the Status of Women and co-convenor of the Working Group of Violence against Women. All which are under the umbrella of the Conference of NGOs (CONGO). IAC is an active member of the Ad-hoc Working Group on Health Promotion.

IAC representatives participated in the following meetings:

2001 At the 57th Session of the Commission on Human Rights (19 March – 27 April, Geneva), IAC made a statement pointing out the constraints faced by the Special Rapporteur on Traditional Practices, Mrs. Halima Embarek Warzazi, as a result of the lack of funds to carry out her mandate.

IAC attended the WHO Executive Board Meeting held in January 2001 and the WHO General Assembly held in May 2001. IAC made a statement under the item "Health Promotion".

IAC was elected to serve as a member of the NGO Steering Committee with a mandate to organize the NGOs Forum at the World Conference on Racism, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance at Durban.

Participated in the special event Day on Violence against Children on September 28th 2001, organized by the Committee on the Convention on the Rights of the Child. IAC distributed and exposed materials.

IAC prepared its 5th Regional Conference/General Assembly held on February 27th-March 3rd 2001, in Dar-es Salaam. The Conference was attended by more than 170 participants, including government officials, UN representatives, International NGOs, IAC members, youth and religious leaders. Reports were compiled and distributed widely.

In 2001, IAC attended several meetings in Europe; all these meetings are related to the health and status of women:

- Basque Region, May 31st- June 2nd; Brussels, Sept. 24th; Geneva, May 21st; Madrid, Nov. 19th-23rd; Strasbourg, May 16th; Vienna, May 8-9th; Oslo, Sept. 13th.

2002 IAC submitted a draft article on the prevention on Violence against Women, including HTPs, to the then African Union (OAU). This draft, after lobbying by IAC was included in the Protocol to the African Charter on Human People' Rights on the Rights of Women in Africa, which was adopted in Maputo in July 2003.

IAC took part in the 46th Session on the Status of Women in New York, to follow the issue of poverty and gender.

IAC presented a joint statement at the 58th Session on the Commission of Human Rights and at the 54th Session of the Sub-Commission on the Preservation and Protection of Human Rights.

IAC held a joint consultation with the Special Rapporteur on Traditional Practices in Geneva May 24th, 2002.

IAC attended the WHO Annual Executive Board Meeting on January 2002 and the WHO Assembly on May 2002.

Attended the World Summit on Information Society.

IAC participated at the ECA meeting of the Committee on Women and Development held in Johannesburg, on October 9th – 11th. IAC was invited to be a member of this committee.

IAC held the first IAC Scientific Committee Meeting on January 21-23, 2002 to elaborate indicators to asses the impact of programmes and interventions. A second meeting was held in July 2nd-5th. Following this meeting impact indicators were developed.

A film « La lumière des étioles à naître » was produced in April 2002. This movie shows the best practices registered.

2003 IAC was marked by an international event, which influence and directed IAC's work at the national, regional and international levels. IAC organized an International Zero Tolerance to FGM which assembled 400 participants from 49 countries. The main outcomes of the conference were the adoption of a Common Agenda for Action and the Declaration of February 6th, as the international Day on Zero Tolerance to FGM. This day was adopted by the Sub-Commission and Commission on Human Rights. It has started to be celebrated worldwide.

IAC attended the Submit of the African Union in Maputo, Angola on July 11th, 2003 and lobbied for the adoption of the Protocol to the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights on the Rights of Women in Africa.

IAC attended the International Meeting on Women's Health organized by WHO, KOBE Centre in Arusha, United Republic of Tanzania on Oct 5th - 8th.

IAC was invited to participate on the Round Table on Zero Tolerance to FGM organized by the EU, September 30th 2003.

IAC attended an International Meeting on Women and Girls Rights on November 10th-11th in Stockholm organized by the Swedish Ministry of Foreign Affairs. IAC presented a paper on HTP achievements registered.

IAC was invited to participate at the Donors Meeting organized by UNICEF in Cairo June 17th-19th.

IAC took part in a Seminar for Civil Society May 27th-29th organized by the Royal Norwegian Embassy in Ethiopia.

IAC attended the 59th Session of the Commission on Human Rights and the 54th Session of the Sub-Commission of Human Rights. It promoted the outcome of the International Conference on Zero Tolerance to FGM and lobbied for the adoption of February 6th as the International Day to Zero Tolerance to FGM.

IAC took part in the meeting of the Special Committee on Human Rights and the Committee on the Status of Women. As a co-convenor of the Working Group on Violence against Women, in 2003 it launched together with other NGOs the draft Glossary on Violence against Women.

2004 Using the Common Agenda for Action, IAC implemented different programmes through its National Committees at the National Level, and developed and published several information and lobbying materials.

IAC took part in the 57th WHO Assembly (17-22 May), together with other members of the NGO advisory group on Health Promotion, a special panel was organized.

IAC participated in the International Policy Conference – The African Child and the Family May 21st-22nd in Addis Ababa, organized by the African Child Forum.

IAC was invited to the World Women Forum held in Barcelona from July 29th-31st , organized by the Barcelona City Council.

IAC took part in the meeting of the campaign "STOP FGM" organized by No Peace without Justice in Nairobi.

IAC participated In the Sub-Regional Forum of West African Traditional Communicators on Violence against Women on violence against women, organized by the Agence Intergovernmental de la Francophonie.

IAC was present in the 7th Regional Conference on Women (Beijing +10) held in Addis Ababa.

IAC participated in a conference Women Defending Peace, organized by Suzanne Mubarak Women's International Peace movement and the Swiss Federal Department of Foreign Affairs.

IAC was invited to make a presentation to the Experts Meeting on Violence against Women, including FGM, organized by the Refugee Organization of the Netherlands on November 25th, 2005.

Attended the "Analysis and Awareness Conference" on the acquisition of the refugee condition organized by the Basque Government.

The Executive Board Meeting was held in Dakar, Senegal from the 25th to 27th of October 2004.

2001-2004 The work of IAC at the national, regional and international level continues to make impact IAC had continued to implement youth activities, alternative employment opportunities (AEO), training information campaigns (TIC), training to empower women and seminars for opinion and religious leaders. All the activities are aimed at implementing the Common Agenda for Action which projects the eradication of FGM and other HTPs by the year 2010.

Through this period IAC had continued to produce leaflets, newsletters, and anatomical models. Two editions of the IAC Photo book have been produced, as well as three editions of the Impact Indicators.

4. Islamic Relief

Special consultative status granted in 1993

Islamic Relief (IR) is an international relief and development charity aimed at alleviating the suffering of the world's poorest nations. It is an independent, non-political organisation established in 1984. Since then IR has grown rapidly, and currently spans over four continents, initiating emergency and long term development projects in some of the poorest communities around the world. During the period 2001-2004 had 26 offices. IR has its headquarters in Birmingham, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland. IR's other offices are in the Afghanistan, Albania, Bangladesh, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Egypt, Ethiopia, France, Germany, Indonesia, Iraq, Italy, Kenya, Kosovo

(Serbia and Montenegro), The Netherlands, Mali, Mauritius, Pakistan, Occupied Palestinian Territory, Russian Federation, Sweden, Switzerland, South Africa, the Sudan & United States of America. Some of these are focussed mainly on advocacy and fundraising, whilst the rest are focussed mainly on implementing projects to alleviate poverty. The sectors IR specialises in are: education and vocational training; health and nutrition; water and sanitation; income generation; children & orphans support; disaster preparedness and emergency relief.

Approximately 80% of our donations come from individual non-governmental donors. The organisation has no relationship with any government bearing on its management or the orientation of its activities. However, IR may accept donations or services from governmental agencies wishing to support certain projects. For example the Department for International Development (DFID) of the United Kingdom has financially supported IR's development and emergency relief projects in Mali, Pakistan and Bangladesh & Afghanistan.

In addition to DFID and UN institutions, other sources of Governmental funding to IR are from the European Community Humanitarian Office (ECHO) and the European Commission (EC)

2) Participation in UN Conferences and Meetings

During the period 2001 – 2004, Islamic Relief has participated in numerous conferences and meetings with UN agencies.

As an example, the President of IR, Dr Hany El Banna, has been meeting with the heads of various offices of the UN. The following are an illustration of the type of involvement IR has with UN conferences and meetings.

- On the 9th of June 2004, IR took part in a WFP Global Forum in Dublin, where Dr Hany delivered a talk entitled 'How can the WFP better understand the Islamic world'.

- On the 14th of September 2004 the President of IR met with the meeting with High Commissioner of UNHCR in Geneva regarding a conference on the status of religiously based NGO's, especially those from a Muslim background.

- On the 7th December 2004 the President of IR delivered a talk in the United States of America to the UN Department of Public Information on 'Confronting Islamophobia; Education for Tolerance and Understanding' (Positivophobia).

- In late 2003 – early 2004, IR Egypt Programme Manager (PM) participated with UNICEF and the Ministry of Population and Health in the preparation of Tools for Early Detection of Disabilities. In April 2004, IR Egypt PM participated in the UNICEF's workshop to put in place UNICEF's Strategy in Egypt.

- On the 31st of May and 9th June 2004 the President of IR met with James Morris, Executive Director, WFP in Rome to discuss a child health project in Egypt.

- On the 31st March 2004 the President of IR attended a high level humanitarian forum, Switzerland, organized by UNOCHA in Geneva, Switzerland.

- From the 10th to 12th December 2003 , the President attended a WFP/ NGO Consultation held in Rome.

- On the 3rd April 2003 Head of WFP visited IRHQ in Birmingham.

3) Co-operation with UN Programmes, Bodies and Specialised Agencies

IR is committed to the aims and goals of the UN. Our commitment is demonstrated in two broad ways. As well as our advocacy and networking on a senior level, mainly through the office of the President, our co-operation is also demonstrated globally as an implementing partner for the UN agencies.

Millenium Development Goals

In January 2002, IR along with the DFID took part in a national campaign to help reduce poverty. Entitled 'Target 2015" the campaign was tied into the United Nations Millennium Development Goals. Our programmes of poverty eradication are also geared towards these goals.

Afghanistan

- During late 2001 and 2002, IR conducted numerous food distribution programmes in Afghanistan, in conjunction with the WFP.

- During 2003 and 2004 IR Afghanistan conducted a number of projects with FAO, including one that provided vegetable seeds and hand tools to farmers.

- In 2003 the UN WFP co-financed a project with DFID to establish and run womens bakeries in Kandahar.

Albania

- IR Albania worked as an implementing partner for the WFP conducting a Food-for-Work project rebuilding infrastucture with rural communities in northern Albania. The project began in 2002 continued beyond the end of 2004.

Bangladesh

- In September 2003, IR Bangladesh implemented an emergency flood relief project funded by the WFP.

- In November 2004, IR Bangladesh implemented a Supplementary Feeding Programme for Pregnant Women jointly funded by UNICEF and WFP.

Iraq

- In November 2003 IR began a project to support Syrian refugees in Iraq, funded by UNHCR.

- In April – July 2004 IR implemented a job creation project in Falluja, Iraq funded by the UNDP. This project was repeated in November 2004.

Kosovo (Serbia and Montenegro)

UNICEF funded a Mine Awareness project from early 2000 to March 2001. The training consisted of three strands: a summer school, 'Child to Child' training , and Mine Awareness training programme for Imams.

Mali

- In 2001 IR worked with the WFP as an implementing partner in the School Canteens project in Mali.

Pakistan

- In 2002, IR Pakistan, in conjunction with UNHCR, conducted a project in Bhalochistan to assist people affected by the drought and conflict in southern Afghanistan.

- In 2001, IR Pakistan conducted a food distribution in a newly established Refugee Camp in Leejay Kerez, district Chagai, Bhalochistan, funded by the WFP.

Russian Federation

- Since November 2000 to date, IR has been working as an implementing partner for WFP in the Republic of Ingushetia.

- IR has constructed latrines in camps in Ingushetia, funded by the UNHCR.

- IR has carried out food distributions as an implementing partner for the WFP.

The Sudan

- IR was assisted by UNICEF in a flood relief programme in Kassalla in 2003.

- UNWFP through its Food-for-Work Scheme worked with IR in North Kordofan. It also implemented a water project and food distributions in 2003.

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* Reports submitted by non-governmental organizations are issued without formal editing.

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1. Covenant House
(Special consultative status granted in 1985)

The aims of Covenant House are: to identify and address the problems of the urban poor, especially homeless, runaway and street children and youth; to identify their social, psychological and physical problems and to address them and to increase public awareness of the need for effective youth care facilities. Covenant House achieves these aims by providing crisis and transitional residential care and supportive services to more than 75,000 runaway and homeless youth per year. Covenant House is located at twenty-one sites throughout the United States of America, Canada, Mexico, Guatemala, Honduras and Nicaragua. Services include street outreach, food and shelter, transitional housing, family reintegration, medical and nutritional assistance, job preparation and training, educational support, legal assistance as well as both substance abuse and mental health counseling. Covenant House also conducts extensive advocacy on behalf of all children.

In 2001 and 2002, Covenant House served as a member of the Steering Committee for the NGO Committee on UNICEF for the United Nations General Assembly Special Session for Children. The Steering Group was responsible for organizing all NGO activities during the Preparatory Committees and the Special Session itself. Covenant House participated in a planning session of the Steering Group for the Second Preparatory Committee on January 22, 2001 at UNICEF, New York. Covenant House also was actively involved in the sessions of the Second Preparatory Committee from January 29 until February 2, 2001 that were conducted at the United Nations in New York.

Covenant House continued as an active participant at additional Steering Group meetings at UNICEF House in New York on March 26, April 2, April 4, April 9, April 19, April 23, May 7, May 14, May 21, May 30 and June 4. Covenant House again was extensively involved in the sessions of the Third Preparatory Committee at the United Nations in New York, June 9 through June15, 2001. On July 2, 2001 at UNICEF House in New York, Covenant House followed up on these activities by being part of the NGO Steering Group Debriefing Session on the Third Preparatory Committee.

In preparation for the United Nations Special Session on Children, Covenant House continued to participate in the Steering Group's meetings that were held on July 24, July 27, August 7, August 14, August 22, August 28, September 4, September 5, September 10, September 18, September 25, November 13, 2001 and January 15, February 6, February 19, April 2, April 9, April 16, April 23 and May 5, 2002 at UNICEF House, New York. On May 6, Covenant House assisted in the orientation for all NGOs to the United Nations Special Session on Children at UNICEF House in New York.

Covenant House served as the main facilitator for all three of the NGO plenary sessions of the United Nations Special Session on Children that were held at the United Nations on May 9, May 9 and May 10 in New York. Covenant House was an editor of the NGO newspaper, "On the Record", which was issued daily during the United Nations Special Session on Children as well as the liaison for all NGOs from the Mid-East/North Africa region. Covenant House also actively participated in the NGO Child Rights Caucus in developing the NGO Alternative Statement to a World Fit for Children. Covenant House supported the NGO position of

referencing the Convention on the Rights of the Child as the focal point for the Nation States' Document: "A World Fit for Children". After the Special Session, Covenant House participated in a debriefing session of the Steering Group in New York on June 13, 2002.

On July 18 and 19 2002, Covenant House along with other United States NGOs formed a Committee for the United States Ratification of the Convention on the Rights of the Child at a meeting of the Child Welfare League of America that was held at the Child Welfare League of Canada's offices. On October 8, 2002 the Committee held its second national meeting at the offices of the Child Welfare League of America in Washington, D.C. On February 13 and 14, 2003, Covenant House sponsored at its New York Avenue offices a two-day symposium on the United States Ratification of the Convention on the Rights of the Child. Later on May 1, 2003, the Committee established its formal structure and became the Campaign for the United States Ratification of the Convention on the Rights of the Child. Covenant House was also elected the chair. In 2004, the Campaign began the organization of a Summit on the Convention on the Rights of the Child that will be held at American University in May 2006.

In 2003, Covenant House continued its active involvement with the NGO Committee on UNICEF its working groups and attended meetings January 22, April 25, June 18. Covenant House was an active member at the Annual General Meeting of June 1 and 2, 2003 in New York that determined the future course of the NGO Committee on UNICEF with respect to structure and areas of focus. Covenant House also participated in meetings to gather information for the United Nations Study on Violence Against Children throughout 2003 and 2004 at meetings in New York on September 18 and October 16, 2003 as well as in Toronto, Guatemala City and Geneva.

At the Annual General Meeting on June 5, 2004 in New York, Covenant House was elected to the position of Co-Chair of the NGO Committee on UNICEF. From this position, Covenant House assisted in the day-to-day management of the Committee, facilitated two major consultations on UNICEF Mid-Term Strategic Plan particularly in relation to the Millennium Development Goals and has developed a closer working partnership between the NGOs and UNICEF. The NGO Committee hosted a breakfast for the new Executive Director of UNICEF that was attended by over 25 CEO or CEO designates from the NGO Committee membership.

Additionally, in 2004, Covenant House presented on the Convention of the Rights of the Child at the Federation Internationale Communautes Educatives (FICE) Congress, held in Glasgow, Scotland, September 7-10, 2004. FICE represents Child Care and Rights Workers from approximately 30 European countries though attendees were from as far away as India.

In August of 2004, Covenant House Latin America (Casa Alianza) and UNICEF Latin America/Caribbean Region entered into a formal Memorandum of Understanding in order to work cooperatively with respect to children's rights and especially in the combating of child trafficking. From 2001-2004, Casa Alianza Honduras worked closely with the United Nations in reporting the extra-judicial murders of children and youth and has provided evidence to the United Nations Commission on Human Rights.

2. Foundation for International Training (Special consultative status granted in 1997)

The Foundation for International Training (FIT) was established in Canada, in 1976, as a non-profit, development services organization. FIT's mission is to further social and economic progress in developing countries by strengthening human capabilities. Its programs are designed to foster and increase the capacities of local institutions—voluntary, private or public—to strengthen human resources for development. This mission is predicated on the conviction that people—their institutions, skills and capabilities—are the most critical resources for development. Since its inception FIT has completed more than 500 projects in over 60 countries in Africa, Asia, the Caribbean, Central and Eastern Europe, Latin America and the Middle East; these projects were financed by the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA), the World Bank, the Asian Development Bank (ADB), United Nations agencies and the governments of developing countries. This report focuses on activities carried out during the period 2001-2004 in cooperation with United Nations (UN) agencies and in support of the UN's goals and objectives.

Between 2001 and 2004, FIT's contact and organizational information remained the same; FIT's core areas of activity also remain unchanged. A complete list of FIT's projects that were active during the reporting period 2001-2004.

Participation in the work of ECOSOC and its subsidiary bodies

FIT was unable to participate directly in meetings convened by ECOSOC during the reporting period. In spite of our interest in more direct participation, scheduling difficulties posed barriers to our attendance at those sessions to which FIT was invited in Geneva and New York. An additional constraint was our limited financial resources to cover the cost of travel to events that are outside Canada and not directly related to project activities. We do, however, carefully follow the reports and other documentation resulting from these sessions. We hope to be more active participants in ECOSOC meetings in the coming period.

Activities carried out in cooperation with other UN bodies or agencies

Identifying Disability Issues Related to Poverty Reduction

The culmination of this project was a region-wide workshop held at the ADB in Manila in October 2002. This workshop featured presentations made and panels chaired by representatives from UN agencies, including Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP), International Labour Organization (ILO) and UN Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO). The workshop was the summing up of a regional project delivered under contract with the ABD in Cambodia, India, the Philippines and Sri Lanka. FIT carried out policy studies and organized sub-national and national level workshops where multiple stakeholders developed action plans to mainstream disability issues within national poverty reduction strategies. The project itself built upon the momentum of the recently-concluded Asian Decade of Disabled Persons which, in turn, had grown from the worldwide Decade of Disabled Persons and the General Assembly's adoption of the Standard Rules on the Equalization of Opportunities for Persons with Disabilities (Resolution 48/96).

Good Governance in Georgia

In 2004, FIT developed a concept paper in partnership with the UN Association of Georgia (UNAG). After conducting a preliminary program investigation mission, and consulting with various actors including the UN Development Programme (UNDP), FIT and UNAG proposed a strategy to promote effective civil society-community engagement in regional and local governance. This would, in turn, lead to sustainable economic development and a reduction in extreme poverty, thereby supporting both the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) and the Government of Georgia's Economic Development and Poverty Reduction Program (EDPRP).

Child Rights Project (CRP), Sri Lanka

CRP is a member of the Coordinating Committee on training, which is led by United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF). This committee allows stakeholders to network and share information and resources. As part of this community, CRP has used FIT's capacity building strength to develop material which can be used for training of trainers in the North and East provinces of the country.

Initiatives undertaken in support of the overall goals and objectives of the UN

As the distillation of the most urgent priorities within development, the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) not only overlapped with many of FIT's existing projects, but also helped chart a course for future initiatives. Through our work in a number of sectors and geographic areas FIT was involved with projects directly supporting the aims of all eight MDGs. As well, local participation, gender equality, capacity building and sustainability are cross-cutting themes in all FIT programs, reinforcing these UN priorities at all levels.

MDG 1: Small Enterprise Development in Upper Egypt (SMEDUP)

The Second Country Report for Egypt notes a large social and economic disparity between Upper and Lower Egypt. Without specialized interventions to make up for a lack of resources and agency in the governorates of Upper Egypt, this region is in danger of being left behind. FIT's SMEDUP project contributed to sustainable poverty alleviation by providing access to credit and business advisory services to support business start-ups in some of the poorest areas of Egypt. Although SMEDUP concluded in 2002, El Mobadara and three Regional Enterprise Development Centres (REDECs)—organizations developed through this project—continue to provide business development services with the goal of eliminating extreme poverty through job creation in Upper Egypt.

MDG 2: Sri Lanka Child Rights Project (CRP)

In addition to our collaboration with UNICEF, CRP's main project activities support the UN's mandate in a variety of ways. CRP's main objective of promoting and protecting the rights of children, particularly those in especially difficult circumstances, supports UNICEF's child protection mandate. As many children in Sri Lanka have been affected by conflict, forced into labour, or denied their primary caregiver following a parent's migration to seek employment, protection issues abound. CRP has many partners working on a number of child rights issues, including registering children and obtaining birth certificates for them. Other

sub-projects supported by the CRP contribute to MDG 2 regarding universal primary education, by addressing barriers to primary school enrolment and paving the way for future attainment of Target 16 regarding creation of strategies for productive work for youth.

MDG 3: Women's Initiative Fund (WIF)

One of the most important factors relating to women's empowerment is access to and control over resources. At its conclusion in 2001, WIF had been managed by FIT for 11 years, and had continuously adapted to the changing priorities and abilities of its main target group: female entrepreneurs and low-income women. WIF's aim was to increase economic opportunities for women through small and micro-enterprise development, which involved identifying and addressing the social needs of FIT's female clients, developing business advisory procedures, managing loan portfolios, and contracting with banks. This project was subsequently taken over by FIT's local partners who continue to work towards gender equality and empowerment of women.

MDGs 4 & 5: Participatory Development Program (PDP)

PDP works with civil society organizations in Egypt to strengthen their capacities in the areas of child protection, gender equality and participation. Although this Program also works towards Goal 3 and encourages local ownership of development, the PDP has a strong child protection component which furthers both MDG 4 and UNICEF's child protection policies. Furthermore, PDP's gender equality component addresses the strategic interests of women in Egypt. Many of PDP's partner organizations are concerned with health issues, specifically maternal and family health and children with disabilities. By the end of 2004, PDP had already identified and begun working with an initial cohort of 18 Egyptian organizations.

MDG 6: International Youth Internship Program (IYIP)

The International Youth Internship Program, sponsored by the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA), provides young professionals with the opportunity to work and live in communities overseas. In recognition of the seriousness of the global HIV/AIDS pandemic, FIT worked in partnership with two African organizations to create internship positions with the aim of raising awareness of HIV/AIDS, and also to create opportunities for those people already affected. In 2003 an intern worked with the Tanzania Media Women's Association to develop several HIV/AIDS prevention education initiatives. Three interns, one each in 2002 through 2004, worked with a South African community centre to integrate HIV/AIDS education and destigmatization into their community development work.

MDG 7: Small and Medium Enterprises Applied Management and Environment Project (SMEEP)

This program works with Small and Medium Enterprises in Jiangsu Province, China, to introduce cleaner production techniques and to ensure environmental sustainability while increasing profitability. This work supports both MDG 7 and the mandate of the United Nations Environmental Programme, Division of Technology, Industry and Economics (UNEP DTIE), specifically in the area of technology transfer and industry. The enterprises that have

worked with SMEEP have developed their capacities to employ cleaner production techniques, environmentally sound technologies, sustainable consumption and industrial pollution management and, as a result, have greatly reduced hazards which had been affecting employees, community members and the surrounding environment.

MDG 8: Enhancing Civil Society Project (ECSP)

In order to develop a partnership for development that is truly global in scope, it is necessary to take into account areas that are vulnerable in ways that might be overlooked in favour of issues that are more geographically visible. MDG Target 14 is aimed at implementing the Program of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States. Through capacity development, training and management support, FIT's ECSP has been strengthening the abilities of Jamaica's community-based organizations to tackle pressing development issues through community engagement. The Project has also worked directly with local government councils to promote participatory planning and engagement of community organizations and citizens in sustainable development planning. With extensive community participation and engagement, Jamaica's community-based organizations are ensuring the sustainability of their own development.

Active FIT Projects, 2001-2004

- Bangladesh

  Private Voluntary Development Organization Capacity Development Project (1997 – 2001)
- Bosnia and Herzegovina, China, Croatia, Egypt, India, Jamaica, South Africa, Sri Lanka, United Republic of Tanzania

  International Youth Internship Program (1998 – Present)
- Cambodia, India, the Philippines and Sri Lanka

  Identifying Disability Issues Related to Poverty Reduction (2001 - 2002)
- Canada, China

  China Study Missions(June 1990 – Present)
- China

  Small and Medium Enterprises Applied Management and Environment Project (1998 – 2007)

  Egypt

  Participatory Development Program (2003 – 2008)

  Small Enterprise Development in Upper Egypt (1996 – 2003)

  Women's Initiative Fund (1990 – 2001)
- Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania

  Baltic Initiatives Program (1999 – 2004)

- Ethiopia

  National Training Capacity Supply and Demand Study; National Training Workshop; Public Sector Capacity Building Program (2004 – 2005)

- Jamaica

  Enhancing Civil Society Project (1998 – 2005)

- Romania

  Capacity Strengthening for the Graduate School of Management (1998 – 2001)

- Sri Lanka

  Child Rights Project (2001 – 2006)

3. International Association of Democratic Lawyers (Special consultative status granted in 1969)

In the following sections of the Report, the I.A.D.L. wishes to draw the Committee's attention to its deep and abiding commitment to the work of the United Nations.

I.A.D.L.'s Organizational Mission

The aims of the International Association of Democratic Lawyers (I.A.D.L.), a Non-Governmental Organization (NGO) with consultative status to ECOSOC and represented at UNESCO and UNICEF are:

1. To work together to achieve the aims set out in the Charter of the United Nations;

2. To facilitate contact and exchange of views between and among lawyers and lawyers' associations of all countries to foster understanding and goodwill among them;

3. To ensure common action by lawyers;

4. In the realm of law, the study and practice of the principles of democracy to encourage the maintenance of peace and co-operation among nations;

5. To restore, defend and develop democratic rights and liberties in legislation and in practice;

6. To defend and promote human and peoples' rights;

7. To promote the preservation of ecology and healthy environments;

8. To struggle for strict adherence to the rule of law and the independence of the judiciary and legal profession; and

9. To defend all peoples' rights to development and for conditions of economic equality and the enjoyment of the fruits of scientific progress and natural resources.

I.A.D.L. Membership

I.A.D.L. members committed to the mission set forth above include national affiliated organizations of lawyers, legal educators and juridical professional in more than ninety (90) countries. Individual lawyers, jurists, legal educators and law students who are not members of national affiliates from any nation state are also included in our membership.

Funding of I.A.D.L. Activities

I.A.D.L. activities and projects are funded by membership dues paid by affiliates and individual members and not-for-profit organizations that support the goals and mission of the Association and the specific projects being organized. For example, I.A.D.L. received funding for a study on Racism and Racial Discrimination from UNESCO in 2004.

Activities of I.A.D.L. for 2001-2004

2001 - met with Mr. Andrew Grene, Secretary, Special Committee, Department of Peacekeeping (15 January, U.N. Headquarters, NY, hereinafter "UNNY"); co-sponsored Conference on "Lawyers Against Racism and Fascism" (17-18 February, Rome, Italy); attended Preparatory Commission for ICC (26 February - 9 March, UNNY); attended Commission on the Status of Women (6-16 March, UNNY); formed, with the International Center for Trade Union Rights (ICTUR), the International Commission for Labor Rights (16 June, Geneva); participated in International War Crimes Tribunal on US Crimes in Korea, 1945-2001 (June, Riverside Church, NY); organized delegation to World Conference Against Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance (31 August- 7 September, Durban, South Africa), and held workshop on "The Legal Basis for the Claim of Reparations" and "Neo-liberal Globalization" (30 August, Durban City Hall); attended UN General Assembly Special Session on AIDS (25-27 September, UNNY); attended CONGO meeting on NGO access to U.N. Headquarters (23 October, UN Church Centre); co-organized International Conference of Lawyers on Palestine, International Law and Peace, Paris (November); chaired NGO Committee on Southern Africa (January-March 2001, UN Church Centre, NY); co-sponsored Conference of Lawyers of Asia and the Pacific (COLAP-III) (19-21 October, Hanoi, Viet Nam).

2002 - attended Commission on Status of Women (4-15 March, UNNY); attended session of Special Committee on the Charter (18-29 March, UNNY); participated in first planning meeting for International Legal Conference on Reparations for Africans and African Descendants, a post-WCAR initiative (June, Detroit, Michigan); participated in ICC Preparatory Committee(1-2 July, UNNY); co-sponsored Conference on Aftermath of 9.11, London (May); attended Security Council meeting on "The Situation between Iraq and Kuwait"(16 October, UNNY); attended panel discussion on Iraq and the Use of Force Under International Law (24-26 October, at Bar Association of the City of New York); participated in ICC/Assembly of State Parties (3-10 September, UNNY); attended U.N. International Conference on Civil Society in Support of the Palestinian People (23-24 September, UNNY); attended Human Rights Day (10 December, U.N. Church Centre).

2003 - attended Security Council meeting on legality of Iraq War (27 March, UNNY); attended Commission on Status of Women (3-14 March, UNNY); participated in Informal General Assembly Meeting with NGO Representatives (17 April, UNNY); co-sponsored International Conference on Peace on the Korean Peninsula and played leading role as Chief Judge and Chief Prosecutor in Pyongyang International Tribunal (19 - 29 July, Pyongyang, Democratic People's Republic of Korea); sponsored delegation to Sub-commission, Human Rights Commission, which presented written statement [circulated 14 July 2003 as

E/CN/Sub.2/2003/NGO/12], "Forgotten War, Forgotten Victims, and Forgotten Crimes," on Korean War (August); attended ICC/Third Assembly of States Parties (8-12 September, UNNY); attended Conference in Support of the Palestinian People (4-5 September, UNNY); attended CONGO Information Session on the work of the General Assembly (20 November, UNNY); delegation to Vietnam on Agent Orange compensation (November); attended Human Rights Day (10 December, UNNY); attended NGO Forum on Iraq, sponsored by NGO Committee on Disarmament (11 December); attended NGO Committees' Forum on "Decade for Education for Sustainable Development" (11 December); attended NGO Committee on the International Decade of the World's Indigenous Peoples (20 November, U.N. Church Centre); drafted Charter for International People's Tribunal on the Aggression Against Iraq (November-December); meeting of International Commission for Labor Rights in Geneva (2003); co-submitted two amicus briefs to the Israeli High Court challenging Israeli policy of targeted assassination and the Security Wall; participated in Alliance of NGOs on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice (13 October, Vienna); and Vienna Committee on the Status of Women; attended meeting of UNESCO Executive Council (August) and drafted a proposed international instrument to protect world cultural heritage.

2004 - attended planning meetings of the NGO Committee on the Decade of the World's Indigenous Peoples for Permanent Forum on indigenous issues (22 January and 26 February); attended NGO Briefing on "Anti-Semitism, Islamophobia and Racism: New Perspectives on Old Menaces" (22 January, UNNY); attended events on collective theme of trauma interventions and conflict prevention, sponsored by NGO Committee on Human Rights (12 February and 4 March, UNNY or Church Centre) and NGO Committee on Mental Health (10 February and 11 March, UNNY or Church Centre); attended ECOSOC Informal Panel on Reforms (7 May, UNNY or Church Centre); attended ECOSOC meeting for NGO contributions on poverty eradication in LDC's for High Level Segment meeting on 28-30 June (18 March, UNNY or Church Centre); attended Human Rights Commission (March-April, Geneva); attended Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues (10 - 21 May, UNNY); co-sponsored International People's Tribunal on the Aggression Against Iraq, Berlin (June); participated in Sub-Commission meeting of UN Human Rights Commission (26 July- 13 August, Geneva); sponsored Conference on "New Dimensions of Terrorism" (20-21 November, Parliament House Annex, New Delhi, India); participated in NGO Alliance on Crime Prevention (22 November, Vienna); attended NGO Committee on the Status of Women (30 September, Vienna); published Racism and Racial Discrimination: A Study Submitted to UNESCO (published by IADL 2004, printed at Everest Press, New Delhi).

As discussed in this Quadrennial Report, since its founding, the I.A.D.L. has based its activities, legal strategies and international campaigns on the principles of the U.N. Charter. We support all U.N. initiatives and disseminate information about U.N. activities to our affiliates and members throughout the world. The I.A.D.L. pledges its consistent and unqualified support of the U.N. as the only hope for world peace and the ultimate eventual achievement of economic, social and legal rights of all the peoples of the world.

4. International Centre for Ethnic Studies (Special consultative status granted in 1997)

The International Centre for Ethnic Studies(ICES) has through the years strived to evolve a model of historically sensitive theoretical, empirical research in ethnicity, social and political process. Human Rights, Peace Reconciliation, Constitutionalism have been central to the concerns of ICES. Since 1982, the centre has engaged in research and policy formulation programmes and projects in the areas of Violence Against Women, Constitutionalism, Militarization and Gender, Economic Reforms Post 1977 era, Social Suffering, Diversity and Pluralism, and Minority Rights. Although the death of Neelan Tiruchelvam was an irreplaceable loss for ICES Colombo, the staff of the centre is determined to carry his vision forward in consolidating ICES and planning its future programmes. The Centre has been enriched via intensive dialogue with political activists and thinkers and through detailed archival work. Key issues of the centre have been: the advancement of human rights; the contribution toward international cohesion; promotion of international peace; contribution towards a more equitable development process.

ICES Activities:

ICES Colombo continued to house the office of the United Nations Special Rapporteur on Violence Against Women, Dr Radika Coomaraswamy till her term ended in April 2003. Many background papers were prepared for her visits to Colombia, Sierra Leone, India, Nepal, Bangladesh and Afghanistan. ICES also continues to maintain archives on issues of Violence Against women in particular to South Asia. Since August 2001 more than 800 new documents have been added to the archives at the Centre. These mainly consist of unpublished material including reports on various aspects of violence against women.

1. United Nations International Conferences

The World Conference Against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance (WCAR) 31 August - 8 September,Durban, South Africa:

ICES has long been engaged in conceptualizing, analyzing, and working towards solutions to race and ethnic conflicts and violence in the region. Drawing from its research capabilities and experience in the field, ICES objectives at the WCAR were to contribute both conceptually and practically to the WCAR deliberations. One of it's objectives at the WCAR was to make substantial interventions especially on the interactions between race and gender and ethnicity, race and caste and to act as a catalyst in the race and ethnicity discourse that has begun in Sri Lanka. Although attention has been paid to the effects of conflict on issues of identity etc., the race and ethnicity dialogue has not been given much importance in conflict and post-conflict areas.

Preparatory Meetings:

- The first step in conceptualizing and developing ICES' role and project for the United Nations World Conference on Racism was participation at the Asia Pacific Preparatory meetings held in Teheran on February 17-22, 2001.

- ICES was able to further strengthen its regional and global network at the Asia Pacific Networking Meeting held in Kathmandu in April 2001.

-ICES representatives lobbied actively and made a noteworthy intervention at the Second Preparatory Commission. in Geneva, in May and June 2001.

-In addition to the regional meetings and Prep Comm., ICES organized many local level meetings to evaluate plans for the WCAR and also to generate ideas for follow-up activity.

At The World Conference:

In addition to lobbying, networking and making interventions, ICES conducted a panel discussion and art exhibition titled 'Youth, Militarization and Exclusion' in Durban. The three papers presented at the panel discussion were:

- Colonialism and the Inter: ection of Racism and Descent-based forms of Discrimination in South Asia by Dr. Darini Rajasingham.
- Identity within: Cultural Relativism, Minority Rights and the Empowerment of Women by Dr. Radhika Coomaraswamy
- Reinterpreting Ethnic Tensions in Sri Lanka: The Impact of Social Discrimination on Youth and Violent Conflict by Dr. Markus Mayer.

A publication comprising these three papers was published in 2004.

2. Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) and its subsidiary bodies

ICES was represented by its Director at the United Nations Commission on Human Rights Sessions as well as the United Nations Working Group on Minorities.

Working Group on Minorities:

At the Seventh Sessions of the Working Group held in May **2001**. A brief overview was given of regional activities organized by ICES in the area of minority rights, which included a training workshop on minority rights and minority-related human rights mechanisms as well as a workshop on advisory services.

-ICES also completed a project on Minority Rights in 2004, this project was initiated with three broad objectives. Firstly, that a detailed examination of experiences, achievements and shortfalls of minority/majority arrangements in the region will provide valuable input to the further deliberations of the United Nations Working Group on Minorities. Secondly, to link the efforts of civil society and regional governments to develop clarity on minority rights and obligations as well as to promote understanding between ethnic groups that are engaging in, or could engage in, confrontational politics. Finally, that a critical mass of empirical experience will emerge from this exercise that could constitute an appropriate basis for further exploration on the viability of establishing some form of advisory services at the regional, national and/or local levels.

-At the level of cooperation with the United Nations Working Group on Minorities, the ICES project focused on two objectives. Firstly it was based on the United Nations Declaration on Minorities

and the mandate of the United Nations Working Group on Minorities, at the same time it also was designed to operate independently of the United Nations processes as that will enable it to address concerns more effectively and pro-actively at the national and regional levels.

Commission on Human Rights:

In April 2003 the organization's representative attended the 59th session of the Commission on Human Rights in Geneva.

3. Other examples of actions in implementation of United Nations resolutions and consultative and substantive activities:

- The International Centre for Ethnic Studies co-launched the Human Development Report 2004 in Sri Lanka with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP). A researcher of the ICES made a presentation at the launch where she engaged with the issues discussed in the report from a South Asian perspective.
- The Director of ICES attended a meeting in Bangkok; Beijing + 10 Regional Review in 7-10 September 2004 (UNESCAP High level Intergovernmental Meeting to Review Regional Implementation of the Beijing Platform for Action and its Regional and Global Outcomes
- Dr. Radhika Coomaraswamy was also invited to be a part of a three member advisory team to carry out an assessment of UNIFEM's status, role and structure in the UN system

4. Regional/National Initiatives:

The regional work of ICES Colombo in the South Asian region continued throughout the 2000-2003 period with the inauguration of the project on Diversity and Pluralism in South Asia.

The project works closely with the many official institutions set up to protect human rights and minority rights and attempts to strengthen their capacity to deal with the rights of minorities and local communities. It is supplemented by the ICES advisory services project that attempts to train government officials and NGO activists on international standards with regard to the rights of minorities. ICES has formulated a comprehensive toolkit for this training course on minority rights that has received the endorsement of Mary Robinson, the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights. The toolkit provides readers with guidance on the international human rights instruments available and the United Nations mechanisms which may be used to submit information and complaints regarding individual and collective human rights violations. It details practical information on fact-finding, how to submit information and use the procedures. It points to some avenues which are available for readers to lobby for change at the international level.

-In year 2002 ICES celebrated its twentieth anniversary. The Colombo office began functioning on the 2nd of August 1982, under the leadership of Dr. Neelan Tiruchelvam. Since then it has developed into a full-fledged research organisation that also engages in a measure of activism. To celebrate this, a 20 day course on Ethnicity, Identity and Conflict was introduced bringing together Sri Lankan scholars living abroad as well as in Sri Lanka to participate as faculty members.

-In 2-5 May 2002, ICES hosted an International Conference on Women, Peace Building and Constitution Making involving fifty international participants and seventy-five local participants.

-ICES Colombo continues to be interested in issues of Women and Governance. The study involving country profiles and analysis of India, Pakistan, Bangladesh and Nepal and original research via questionnaires and participant observation was completed and a book was launched based on the finding in 2003.

-Throughout the period 2001-2004, ICES continued to serve the larger intellectual community with a series of lectures, media programmes and cultural events. ICES inaugurated the Millennium Lecture series, inviting leading thinkers to visit and present their work. The lectures generally coincided with the death anniversary of the late Dr. Neelan Tiruchelvam. Michael Ignatieff, Patricia Sellers, Amitav Ghosh, Alex Boraine, Asma Jehangir and Valentine Daniel were some of the invitees who came to Sri Lanka and delivered these lectures.

5. International Press Institute
(Special consultative status granted in June 1993)

The International Press Institute (IPI) is a global network of editors, media executives and leading journalists, dedicated to protecting and furthering freedom of the press and improving the standards and practises of journalism. The main objectives of IPI are therefore: To protect freedom of opinion and expression; To further and safeguard freedom of the press; To ensure free access to news, regardless of national boundaries; To ensure the safety of journalists and their ability to report freely; To improve the practices of journalism; To increase understanding between peoples. Editors, leading journalists, and media executives from over 115 countries are integrated into this global network, which focuses on the protection of freedom of expression and opinion as a fundamental human right, as stated in Article 19 of the United Nations' Universal Declaration of Human Rights. Freedom of expression has been furthered by IPI through the organisation of events and the publication of reports, booklets and magazines, in particular through the annual IPI World Press Freedom Review. The 2003 report was published with sponsoring from UNESCO.

The following report focuses on IPI Activities in relation with United Nations principles, United Nations Bodies and Specialised Agencies

January 2001 – New Delhi, INDIA: **Klaus Schmitter**, Senior Programme Specialist, Freedom of Expression, Democracy and Peace Programme, UNESCO, addressed the participants at the IPI World Congress in New Delhi, at the session "Freedom of Expression in the IT Era". Keynote speakers at the congress were Indian Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajapayee, Indian Minister of External Affairs, **Jaswant Singh**, and His Holiness, the **Dalai Lama**.

May 2001 – Beirut, LEBANON: Together with the Institute for Professional Journalists at the Lebanese American University, with support of UNESCO, IPI organised a seminar called

"Freedom of Expression and the Media in Lebanon". Keynote speaker was Emile Lahoud, President of Lebanon.

May 2001 – Windhoek, NAMIBIA: IPI representatives took part at a seminar in Windhoek, organised by UNESCO on the 10th Anniversary of the Windhoek Declaration.

March 2002 – Beirut, LEBANON: IPI representatives participated in a round-table on "Professional Ethics, Media Legislation & Freedom of Expression in Lebanon". Organised by the Lebanese American University's Institute for Professional Journalists (IPJ), UNESCO and IPI.

April 2002 – Almaty, KAZAKHSTAN: IPI representatives attended and spoke at the first Eurasia Media Forum, organised by the Khabar Agency. **Henrikas** Yushkiavitshus, advisor to director general, UNESCO, and the IPI Director, spoke on the issue of "Eurasia - The Role Of The Media. Media Cultures - East-West Attitudes". Keynote speakers were President of Kazakhstan, **Nursultan Nazarbayev**, and President of Iran, **Mohammad Khatami**.

May 2002 – Ljubljana, SLOVENIA: **Jiri Dienstbier**, Ambassador-at-Large; former Foreign Minister of the Czech Republic; UN Special Rapporteur on Human Rights in Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia and the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (1998-2001), chaired a session on "Visions for the Balkans" at the IPI World Congress in Ljubljana. In addition to the President of the Parliament of Slovenia, **Borut Pahor**, the President of Montenegro, **Milo Djukanovic**, President of Croatia, **Stjepan Mesic**, and the member of the Presidency, Bosnia and Herzegovina, **Zivko Radisic**, spoke at the session. **Erhard Busek**, Special Coordinator, Stability Part for South Eastern Europe, Brussels, and **Wolfgang Petritsch**, High Representative in Bosnia and Herzegovina, analysed the issue "What Went Wrong in the Balkans".

September 2002 – Dakar, SENEGAL: An IPI representative attended the 10th General Meeting of the International Freedom of Expression Exchange (IFEX), which brought together more than 90 free expression advocates from 52 countries to discuss freedom of expression issues, develop regional networking, and strategise on joint action campaigns.

November 2002 – Vienna, AUSTRIA: The Coordinating Committee of Press Freedom Organisations met in Vienna in conjunction with the Vienna Secretariat's tenth anniversary celebration. In addition to the President of Austria, **Thomas Klestil**, the President of the Austrian Parliament, **Heinz Fischer**, and the Austrian Minister of Foreign Affairs, **Benita Ferrero-Waldner**, **Sergio Vieira de Mello**, United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, Geneva, was the keynote speaker at a special evening event, while **Freimut Duve**, OSCE Representative on Freedom of the Media spoke over luncheon to the members of the Coordinating Committee.

December 2002 – Paris, FRANCE: IPI representatives attended the meeting of the Council of Europe's Committee on Culture, Science and Education. Item 7 of the Agenda, "Freedom of Expression in the Media", was reserved for **(a)** an exchange of views between members of the Committee and representatives from IPI and Reporters sans Frontières and **(b)** consideration of a draft report on freedom of expression in the media in Europe.

April 2003 – Almaty, KAZAKHSTAN: IPI representatives attended and spoke at the second Eurasia Media Forum. IPI was asked to organise two panel sessions entitled "Journalists under Pressure", which gave a platform to prominent press freedom campaigners from Central Asia and the Caucasus to address the participants, and provided an opportunity for IPI ideas on media freedom to be expressed openly in local media. The Advisor to Director-General, Mr. **Henrikas Yushkiavitshus** delivered the welcome note from the Director-General of UNESCO **Koichiro Matsuura**. Again, the keynote speaker was President of Kazakhstan, **Nursultan Nazarbayev**.

April 2003 – Vienna, AUSTRIA: The IPI Director attended a conference on "The Media and the Information Society", organised by the Austrian Federal Chancellery as part of the preparations for the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS).

September 2003 – Salzburg, AUSTRIA: **Mogens Schmidt**, Director, Division of Freedom of Expression, Democracy and Peace, UNESCO, Paris, spoke at the IPI World Congress in Salzburg, participating at the session "Pluralism, Democracy and the Clash of Civilisations". **Alain Modoux**, Senior Adviser to UNESCO for the WSIS, Geneva, spoke at the session on the World Summit on the Information Society. **Maria Cheng**, Spokesperson, Communicable Diseases Section, World Health Organisation (WHO), Geneva, addressed the participants on "SARS and the Media" and **Sir Peter Ustinov**, UNICEF Goodwill Ambassador , a volunteer for UNESCO, was a keynote speaker at the congress on the issue of the "Transatlantic Rift". Another keynote speaker was Austrian Chancellor **Wolfgang Schüssel**. **Yossi Beilin**, former Justice Minister and former Deputy Foreign Minister of Israel, spoke at an interview session on the issue of "The Oslo Accords – 10 Years On".

September 2003 – Bucharest, ROMANIA: IPI and Romanian Radio Broadcasting Corporation, in cooperation with the Council of Europe, organised an international conference on "How to Guarantee Independent Public Service Broadcasting". The conference sought to analyse - ten years after the 1993 IPI symposium "From State-Controlled Broadcasting to Public Broadcasting" and the adoption of the Vienna Declaration on Public Broadcasting. Representatives of public service broadcasters from Central and Eastern Europe, as well as from the European Broadcasting Union (EBU), the European Commission and international NGOs, took part in the IPI conference. Keynote speakers included **Peter Schieder**, President of the Parliamentary Assembly, Council of Europe, **Ion Iliescu**, President of Romania, and the Prime Minister **Adrian Nastase**.

December 2003 – Geneva, SWITZERLAND: the IPI Director attended the biannual meeting of the Coordinating Committee of Press Freedom Organisations, which was held in conjunction with the UN-sponsored World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS). **Shashi Tharoor**, United Nations Undersecretary General for Communications and Public Information, discussed with the Coordinating Committee various UN related issues of basic interest to the group.

December 2003 – Paris, FRANCE: The IPI Director during the seminar, "Israeli and Palestinian Media Professionals: Renewing the Dialogue", chaired the session "Independence of the Media and the Maintenance of Professional Standards." The meeting was organised by

UNESCO in order to provide a platform for Palestinian and Israeli media professionals to discuss matters of common concern and explore venues for possible cooperation.

May 2004 – Warsaw, POLAND: In the presence of over 400 media representatives from 47 nations, at the session "Holding Member States of IGOs to their Press Freedom Commitments" **Santiago Canton**, Executive Secretary, Inter-American Commission on Human Rights, Organization of American States (OAS); **Miklos Haraszti**, OSCE Representative on Freedom of the Media; **Paschal Mooney**, General Rapporteur on the Media, Parliamentary Assembly, Council of Europe; and **Henrikas Yushkiavitshus**, former Assistant Director-General for Communication, Information and Informatics, UNESCO, were available for discussions with participants of this IPI World Congress. **Aleksander Kwasniewski**, President of Poland, and the Prime Minister **Marek Belka**, former President **Lech Walensa**, and former Prime Minister **Tadeusz Mazowiecki**, were among the keynote speakers, as well as **Milan Kucan**, former President of Slovenia, and **Bronislaw Geremek**, Politician and Historian; former Minister of Foreign Affairs.

December 2004 – Vienna, AUSTRIA: Round table "5 years of WHO/IPI Guidelines for Professional Health Correspondents", as originally adopted in 1999 during a meeting of the European Health Communication Network in Copenhagen (keynote speaker **Karsten Koch**, Danish Minister of Health).

Over the period covered by this report, IPI also undertook many more initiatives in defending and furthering press freedom, and freedom of expression, of which we would like to mention:

INSI: At the beginning of 2003, IPI, in cooperation with the International Federation of Journalists (IFJ) founded the International News Safety Institute (INSI), a non-governmental organisation dedicated to promoting practical actions and fostering good practice in the provision of safety training and assistance to journalists and media staff everywhere. INSI was then officially launched in Brussels on 3 May 2003, World Press Freedom Day. It was simultaneously launched at a meeting organised by UNESCO in Jamaica. Led and managed by media professionals, INSI is a coalition of media organisations (print, broadcasting, and news agencies), press freedom groups, journalists' unions and humanitarian campaigners working to create a culture of safety in media in all corners of the world.

CASCFEN: An initiative of the IPI Azerbaijan National Committee (IPI ANC), the Central Asian and Southern Caucasian Freedom of Expression Network (CASCFEN) was set up in Baku, Azerbaijan in March 2003 during a meeting attended by the IPI Director. CASCFEN currently includes eight journalists organizations from Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia, Islamic Republic of Iran, Iraq, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkey, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan with the purpose of promoting freedom of expression and professional journalism in the region. Today, this information network is already integrated into the International Freedom of Expression Exchange (IFEX), based in Toronto.

SEEMO: The South East Europe Media Organisation (SEEMO), a specialised IPI network of editors, media executives and leading journalists from newspapers, magazines, radio, TV stations, news agencies and internet media, was founded in October 2000 in Zagreb, Croatia. It

encompasses the region of Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Greece, Kosovo, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, the Republic of Moldova, Serbia and Montenegro, and Romania. Its chief activities are the promotion of mutual understanding through dialogue meetings of media representatives from the various national, ethnic and religious groups. SEEMO publishes a magazine for the region "De Scripto", as well as a Media Handbook with media reports and contact addresses of leading media in each of these countries.

May 2002 – Ljubljana, SLOVENIA: Dialogue of 80 editors from South East Europe (SEE) – keynote speaker **Erhard Busek**, Special Coordinator, Stability Pact for South East Europe; **Klaus Schmitter**, Senior Programme Specialist, Freedom of Expression, UNESCO; **Alain Modoux**, former UNESCO director, Freedom of Expression.

November 2002 – Skopje, THE former YUGOSLAV REPUBLIC of MACEDONIA: Dialogue of editors from the region of the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia.

March 2003 – Podgorica, SERBIA AND MONTENEGRO Dialogue of editors from Serbia and Montenegro.

May 2003 – Ohrid, THE former YUGOSLAV REPUBLIC of MACEDONIA: Dialogue of editors on conflict prevention in the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia.

July 2003 – Belgrade, SERBIA AND MONTENEGRO: Dialogue of representatives from Roma media in SEE.

September 2003 – Salzburg, AUSTRIA: Dialogue of editors from Hungary, Romania, Slovakia, Vojvodina.

October 2003 – Opatja, CROATIA: Dialogue of editors from Croatia, Serbia and Montenegro.

November 2003 – Skopje, THE former YUGOSLAV REPUBLIC of MACEDONIA: Meeting of editors and directors of private news agencies in SEE.

May 2004 – Belgrade, SERBIA AND MONTENEGRO: Participation at the UNESCO World Press Freedom Day Conference.

May 2004 – Sofia, BULGARIA: Minority Media – Vlachian/Aromanian in SEE.

June 2004 – Neum, BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA: Media Dialogue of editors from Bosnia and Herzegovina, different ethnic groups.

October 2004 – Vienna, AUSTRIA: Press freedom round table with **Miklos Haraszti**, OSCE Representative for Freedom of the Media.

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Note by the Secretary-General

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* Reports submitted by non-governmental organizations are issued without formal editing.

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1. Mediterranean Council for Burns and Fire Disasters

Special consultative status granted in 2001

Guided by the spirit, mission and action of the United Nations, the Mediterranean Council for Burns and Fire Disasters (MBC) applied for consultative relationship with the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) of the United Nations and in 2001 was honored to be accorded Special Consultative Status. Since then this NGO has been active in its international scientific and humanitarian work and has constantly supported the tenets of the United Nations in every way.

--Aims and Action of the MBC---

The primary aim of this NGO is to promote and ensure high quality and equitable care for patients who have extensive burns, for societies and communities in fire disaster, for victims of toxic explosions, nuclear accidents and complex emergencies, in the spirit of alleviating suffering and strengthening international cooperation. It also promotes prevention, fire safety at home and at work, and introduces appropriate technology, especially in developing countries.

Besides these technical activities, this NGO is very much involved in humanitarian service and has separately promoted the establishment of the International Association for Humanitarian Medicine, which is now fully operational and collaborates with the United Nations.

The MBC is a highly professional scientific group, grounded in solid technical work but with a social conscience which expects that such work should be a service to all peoples' well-being, based on the health, humanitarian, scientific and peace-promoting principles of the United Nations and of the World Health Organization. It is in appreciation of these values that WHO had already recognized this NGO as a "WHO Collaborating Centre", and in view of its increasingly valuable services, it was additionally entrusted, in 2001, with the task of Coordinating Office of Collaborating Centres, thus bringing together all the 17 WHO Collaborating Centres on Emergency and Humanitarian Operations throughout the world into more concerted action. This is a significant upward change in the organization within the past quadrennial reporting period.

--A new organizational affiliation has been added. The MBC is now in relation with ACUNS - the Academic Council on the United Nations System, ECOSOC accredited.

--The organization's publication, 'The Annals' has regularly carried a special dedicated section called "The WHO Page". At its Annual Meeting in November 2004 in Cyprus, the Assembly decided to extend the coverage of this section which, as of January, is called "The WHO and UN Pages", thus showing the closer ties with the United Nations.

Activities

-- The President of the MBC regularly attended the 57th, 58th, 59th and 60th sessions of the Commission on Human Rights (Geneva, Switzerland) in 2001,2002,2003,2004 respectively. He has also regularly attended the annual sessions of the World Health Assembly and the WHO Executive Board during that period.

-- In August 2003 the MBC's Journal carried a special In Memoriam upon the tragic death of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, Sergio Vieira de Mello. Appreciatory letters were received from the Secretary-General and the Acting High Commissioner.

-- As a surgeon, the President has been acting as consulting medical advisor to the Chairman of the United Nations Voluntary Fund for Victims of Torture and has attended meetings upon invitation of its Chair, Ambassador J. Walkate (tragically deceased April 2005).

-- This NGO is advisor to WHO on all burn and fire disaster matters. When a series of oil pipeline explosions in Nigeria caused very high death rates and a great number of extensive burn victims, the MBC President and Secretary-General went on emergency mission at the request of WHO to treat patients, advise the government and organize the disaster response. We subsequently also organized surgical training and disaster management for Nigerian doctors.

-- At the height of the recent war in Iraq no patients were allowed to go out of the country for treatment that was unavailable locally. However, the MBC hospitals in Palermo, Italy, and in Graz, Austria, were the only exceptional centers to be given permission to admit such seriously ill patients through our "World Open Hospital" humanitarian network. Furthermore, members of our organization, e.g. Brigadier-General Dr. Leo Klein, acted also in the name of the MBC when on mission with the Czech medical team.

-- United Nations and WHO officials are always invited to MBC Conferences. Thus, inter alia, the Chief of the NGO Section in the Department of Economic and Social Affairs (DESA) participated and represented the UN more than once, giving talks about the mission and action of the United Nations and about the role of Civil Society. The Chief of the WHO Human Rights Section addressed the theme of Health and Human Rights. (Rome, Italy meeting, December 2003.)

-- The MBC takes part in as many relevant United Nations meetings as possible. For example, it attended the United Nations Office of Geneva information session for NGOs in Geneva, Switzerland November 2001. The President and Secretary-General attended the preparatory meetings on communications technology and the WHO sessions on the Millennium Development Goals. The MDGs have been serially published in our Journal.

-- Our Journal has also carried important articles by Secretary-General Kofi Annan, by Mr Shashi Tharoor, by Mr. Boutros Boutros-Ghali and high officials of the World Health Organization.

-- National and academic honours related to United Nations work include: The Secretary-General of the MBC, Prof. M. Masellis, was awarded the Presidential Gold Medal of Italy for his contributions to international public health; and the President, Prof. S.W. Gunn, was awarded the degree of Doctor *honoris causa* from Charles University, Prague, for services to international civil defense and humanitarian medicine.

The Mediterranean Council for Burns and Fire Disasters respectfully presents this brief Quadrennial Report to the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations and United Nations Economic and Social Council and looks forward to a continuing and fruitful collaboration.

2. ORBICOM — Réseau des chaires UNESCO en communication

General consultative status granted in 1997

Orbicom is a specialized network of UNESCO jointly created in 1994 by UNESCO and the Université du Québec à Montréal (UQAM) with 26 Chairs and 246 Associate members in 73 countries.

Area of activity

Development of communication in the world

Geographical Distribution

Australia, Brisbane
Brazil, São Paulo
Bulgaria, Sofia
Canada, Montreal
Chile, Santiago
Colombia, Bogota
Denmark, Copenhagen
España, Barcelona
España, Madrid
France, Grenoble
Germany, Konstanz
Guyana, Georgetown
Hungary, Budapest
Kazakhstan, Almaty
Lithuania, Vilnius
Mexico, Ciudad de México
Maroc, Rabat
Peru, Lima
Philippines, Quezon City
Republica Dominicana, Santo Domingo
Russia, Moscow
South Africa, Durban
Republic of Korea, Seoul
United Arab Emirates, Dubai
United States of America, Austin
Uruguay, Montevideo

Sources of Funding

Secretariat : CAD 180 000 (annual) funded by UQAM, Montreal-International and membership. Research Projects: CAD 400 000 (annual) funded by UNESCO, IDRC, CIDA, InfoDev, La Francophonie, UNDP/APDIP Programme, ITU.

Participation in United Nations Meetings and Conferences

- World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS), Geneva, 10-12 December 2003.

In support of United Nations activities, Orbicom actively participated in 2001, 2002 and 2003 in the preparatory committees (Prepcoms)leading to the first phase of the (WSIS) in December 2003.

Orbicom was also active from early 2004, in the Pepcoms leading to the second phase of WSIS which was to take place in November 2005 in Tunis.

Other Related Activities

- Orbicom organized the "Conference on Media in the Information Society in Africa and the Arab Countries" - Marrakech, November 2004.

- Orbicom produced scientific publications on the digital divide as contributions to the first phase of WSIS;

In 2003: "The Digital Review of Asia Pacific – 2003-2004 Edition";

In 2003: "Monitoring the Digital Divide... and Beyond" in English and French

- As a direct response to the 2003 WSIS Action Plan, an "Opportunity Index" was produced by Orbicom as a joint ITU-Orbicom initiative for the 2005 Tunis Summit, along with new publications.

3. Oxfam America

Special consultative status granted in 1993

Oxfam America is dedicated to creating lasting solutions to poverty, hunger, and social injustice in the world. It funds and provides technical assistance to about 260 partner organizations in 30 developing countries and the United States through seven regional offices based in Addis Ababa (Ethiopia), San Salvador (El Salvador), Lima (Peru), Dakar (Senegal), Harare (Zimbabwe), Phnom Penh (Cambodia) and Boston (United States of America).

Oxfam America promotes the advancement of poor people's social and economic rights, such as land rights, water rights, labor rights, and the rights of women and indigenous people, as well as peace-building and access to credit and other markets. It also provides emergency, rehabilitation and reconstruction assistance (e.g., water & sanitation through Oxfam GB, food, seeds and tools, building construction) after natural disasters and conflicts.

Oxfam America also educates and mobilizes the United States public to pressure the United States government and corporations on issues relevant to its mission, within the limits of United States tax law.

Oxfam America is an affiliate of Oxfam International, which also has consultative status with the United Nations Economic and Social Council. However, Oxfam America is an independent organization incorporated as a non-profit organization in Massachusetts, funded primarily by about 200,000 individuals residing in the United States, and secondarily by foundations, private corporations, and other affiliates of Oxfam International.

Oxfam America's engagement with the United Nations has covered a range of social and economic rights issues, but has focused on both operational and policy aspects of response to humanitarian crises. At an operational level, the main crises on which the organization worked with the United Nations during the period under review were the wars in Afghanistan, Iraq, and Darfur (Sudan), as well as the ongoing food insecurity in Ethiopia. At a policy level, Oxfam America has also worked on a number of other crises, including Liberia, the Democratic Republic of the Congo and Haiti.

Oxfam America engages the United Nations primarily through Oxfam International, which has offices in New York and Geneva and is registered at the NGO Section of DESA in its own name. However, Oxfam America employees occasionally interact directly with United Nations officials,

mostly of UNOCHA, UNDP, WFP, UNICEF, UNHCR, and the Secretary General's office. In November 2004, Oxfam America organized Oxfam International's Board meeting in New York, which was addressed by Mark Malloch Brown (then head of UNDP). Oxfam America's staff is in regular contact with the Permanent Mission of the United States to the United Nations – and with other branches of the United States government involved in United Nations issues – on behalf of Oxfam International.

Besides humanitarian crises, Oxfam America has also been involved in the preparations of the Financing for Development conference, through policy research, networking of civil society in the United States, and advocacy toward the United States government.

4. Tebtebba Foundation

Special consultative status granted in 2001

A restating of the Vision, Mission, Goals was undertaken during Tebtebba's Strategic Planning held in 2001 as follows:

Mission: Tebtebba is an indigenous peoples' organization and a research, education, and policy advocacy and resource center working with indigenous peoples at all levels and arenas. We seek the recognition and promotion of indigenous peoples' rights and aspirations while building unities to uphold social and environmental justice. We shall achieve this by reinforcing the capacities of indigenous peoples for advocacy, campaigns and networking; research, education, training and institutional development; and by actively articulating and projecting indigenous peoples' views and aspirations.

Vision: A world where indigenous knowledge and indigenous peoples' rights are respected and protected by all nations and societies; where there are unified yet diverse and vibrant indigenous peoples' movements at the local and global levels which enhance the self determination and sustainable development of indigenous peoples and their territories.

Tebtebba aims to achieve its mission through the various desks that it has set-up during the reporting period: Networking, Advocacy and Campaigns; Research, Education and Documentation; Publications, Gender; and Resource Center.

The formulation and sharpening of its Vision, Mission, Goals helped in unifying Tebtebba on its tasks and responsibilities in promoting and protecting indigenous peoples' rights worldwide. During the reporting period (2001-2004), a European Desk was also established to help in the lobby and advocacy work of Tebtebba.

Activities Undertaken (2001-2004)

Since acquiring its Special Consultative Status, Tebtebba has increased the range, frequency and quality of its engagement with the United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) and its specialized bodies; in major word summits and conferences and has consistently involved itself with major conventions. A major milestone in the recognition of indigenous peoples was the establishment of the United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues (UNPFII) in 2002. Tebtebba played an important role leading to the establishment of this body. During these events, it

has helped bring in indigenous participants to help ensure that their voices are heard and acted upon, organized several side events and made several interventions that have put indigenous peoples agenda in official outcomes documents, declarations and action plans. The active role that Tebtebba has played in the indigenous peoples movement has resulted in having its Executive Director Victoria Tauli-Corpuz appointed as member of the United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues (UNPFII) in 2004.

Tebtebba's major involvement with the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) during the reporting period are enumerated below:

1. United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues (UNPFII), ECOSOC

Tebtebba has actively participated in the UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues since its establishment in 2002. Its participation include the following:

1st Session of the UNPFII, 12-24 May 2002, United Nations Headquarters, New York

- Coordinated and actively participated in the Indigenous Peoples' Caucus
- Accredited under Tebtebba several indigenous peoples for them to be able to attend the 1st Session

2nd Session of the UNPFII, 12-23, May 2003, United Nations Headquarters, New York

- Coordinated and help organize the Indigenous Peoples' Caucus
- Interventions included:

a. Development Policies and Indigenous Peoples, 15 May 2003

b. Indigenous Peoples' Caucus on Sustainable Development – Joint Statement on Economic and Social Development

c. Joint Statement of Indigenous Peoples' Caucus on Sustainable Development On Future Programme of Work

d. Methods of Work of the Forum with the United Nations System: Joint Caucus Statement of the Indigenous Peoples' Caucus on Sustainable Development, Asia Caucus Statement on follow up to the World Summit on Sustainable Development

e. Statement submitted by non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council [E/C.19/2003/NGO/2]

3rd Session of the UNPFII, 10-21 May 2004, United Nations Headquarters, New York

- Interventions included:

a. Health. 19 May 2004

b. Substantive Theme-Indigenous Women – Report of the 2nd Asian Indigenous Women's Conference, 11 May 2004/Mandated Areas – Baguio Declaration of the 2nd Asian Indigenous Women's Conference [E/C.19/2004/CRP.1]

In 2002, Tebtebba Foundation's Executive Director was nominated by Asian indigenous organizations to be its representative to the UNPFII for 2005-2008. This was confirmed by the United Nations ECOSOC in the same year.

2. UN Working Group on Indigenous Populations (UNWGIP), Sub-Commission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights, United Nations Commission on Human Rights

From 2001 to 2004, Tebtebba continued its participation in the United Nations Working Group on Indigenous Populations (UNWGIP), Sub-Commission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights United Nations Commission on Human Rights held in Geneva, Switzerland. Some of its interventions, some of which were done collectively with other indigenous organizations include the following:

20th Session of the UNWGIP, 22-26 July 2002, Geneva, Switzerland

- Indigenous Caucus Statement on the UNWGIP, 20th Session of the UNWGIP, 22-26 July 2002

21st Session of the UNWGIP, 22-25 July 2003, Geneva, Switzerland

- General Review of Developments
- Indigenous Peoples and globalization
- Standard Setting: Protection of Indigenous Peoples' Heritage and Traditional Knowledge

22nd Session of the UNWGIP, 19-23 July 2004, Geneva, Switzerland

- The Human Rights Situation of Indigenous Peoples in States and Territories Threatened with Extinction for Environmental Reasons
- Cooperation with Other United Nations bodies in the sphere of Indigenous Issues
- Standard Setting: Free Prior and Informed Consent
- Review of Developments Pertaining to the Promotion and Protection of the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, including their Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms
- Review of activities undertaken under the International Decade of the World's Indigenous People
- Guideline for the review of the draft principles and guidelines on the heritage of indigenous peoples
- Review of Developments Pertaining to the Promotion and Protection of the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, including their Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms -Globalisation and Indigenous Peoples
- Review of Developments Pertaining to the Promotion and Protection of the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, including their Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms

3. World Conferences and Summits

a. World Conference Against Racism, Racial Discrimination and Related Forms of Intolerance (WCAR), August 31 - September 8, 2001, Durban, South Africa

Tebtebba Foundation actively participated, together with other indigenous organizations, in the World Conference Against Racism. Tebtebba helped in lobbying for the inclusion of the phrase "indigenous peoples" in the Durban Political Declaration of the World Conference on Racism.

b. World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD), August 26 – September 4, 2002, Johannesburg, South Africa

Tebtebba Foundation was an active organizer of indigenous events leading to the WSSD. It actively participated in the different Preparatory Committees from PrepCom 1, PrepCom 2 (January 28-February 8, 2002, New York), PrepCom 3 (March 25 - April 5, 2002, New York) PrepCom 4 (May 27 - June 7, 2002, Bali, Indonesia). Tebtebba helped accredit hundreds of indigenous peoples to attend not only the Preparatory Committees, notably WSSD PrepCom 4 but also in the WSSD itself. Some of Tebtebba's submissions and interventions, some jointly with other indigenous organization during the PrepComs include:

- Dialogue Paper by Indigenous People [E/CN.17/2002/PC.2/6/Add.3], PrepCom 2
- Indigenous Peoples' Caucus Statement for the Multistakeholder Dialogue on Governance, Partnerships and Capacity Building, PrepCom 4, 27 May 2002
- Indigenous Peoples' Caucus Opening Statement on Partnership, Session 2: Partnership, 28 May 2002, PrepCom 4

In the weeks leading to the WSSD, Tebtebba helped organize the Indigenous Peoples International Summit on Sustainable Development (the Kimberley Summit) on August 20-23, 2002 in Kimberley. Indigenous peoples came out with the Kimberley Declaration and the Indigenous Peoples Plan of Implementation on Sustainable Development, both documents were used by indigenous peoples in its lobby and advocacy work among government delegates to the WSSD. In concrete terms, indigenous peoples achieved a major victory as their lobby work, of which Tebtebba was a major participant, led to the adoption of the sentence: "We reaffirm the vital role of indigenous peoples in sustainable development." (paragraph 22bis) in the Johannesburg Political Declaration [A/Conf.199/L.6/Rev.2/Corr.1].

4. Conventions

Tebtebba has actively participated and made interventions during the official sessions in the following conventions and commissions:

a. United Nations Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD)

- Conference of Parties (COP) Sixth Meeting, The Hague, 7-19 April 2002

i. Intervention on Item 12 of the Provisional Agenda – Working Group on Article 8(j) and Related Provisions of the Convention on Biological Diversity

- Conference of Parties (COP) Seventh Meeting, 9-20 February 2004, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

b. United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change

- Conference of Parties 8, 28 October – 9 November 2001, Marrakech, Morocco
- Conference of Parties 9, 1-12 December 2003, Milan, Italy

5. United Nations ECOSOC specialized bodies

a. International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD)

Since 2001, Tebtebba was able to work closely with IFAD in support of indigenous peoples. IFAD helped fund Tebtebba-accredited indigenous participants to the Kimberley Summit and the WSSD in September 2002. It also helped fund the 2nd Asian Indigenous Women's Conference held in Baguio City, Philippines last March 6-8, 2002.

b. United Nations Development Programme

Tebtebba has also established good working relationship with the United Nations Development Programme during this reporting period. Tebtebba's Executive Director was appointed member of the UNDP CSO Advisory Committee that advises the UNDP Administrator on civil society participation and engagement with the UNDP. UNDP also helped fund Tebtebba-accredited participants to the WSSD in 2002. In 2004, UNDP funded Tebtebba's publication "Beyond the Silencing of the Guns," a compilation of conflict resolution case studies in indigenous territories in Latin America, Southern Africa and Asia.

Since the United Nations Economic and Social Council accorded Special Consultative Status to Tebtebba in 2001, Tebtebba's engagement with the United Nations has grown by leaps and bounds. Tebtebba has been able to articulate indigenous peoples' views, analyses and perspectives on major issues being tackled in the United Nations which impact on indigenous peoples. This status has helped facilitate indigenous participation in major United Nations conferences, summits, meetings and conventions and in their work with different United Nations agencies. On the other hand, Tebtebba's involvement with the United Nations, we believe, has also helped increase the United Nations, its bodies and agencies, awareness on indigenous peoples, their rights and their great potential in contributing to its goals and aspirations.

5. World Evangelical Alliance

Special Consultative Status granted in 1997

Over the four years of the reporting period, the World Evangelical Alliance (WEA) made several structural changes although they did not affect the purposes and activities that it carries out with respect to the United Nations. The name of the organization changed from World Evangelical Fellowship to World Evangelical Alliance effective 1 January 2002.

The WEA has affiliated alliances in 123 countries, as well as seven regional affiliates. Much of the work of the WEA is carried on through the affiliated national alliances on a voluntary basis.

The WEA was first accredited with ECOSOC affiliate status in 1997. Since that time it has primarily focused on promoting religious freedom as a fundamental human right in accordance with Articles 18 through 20 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights; Article 18 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the Declaration on the Elimination of All Forms of Religious Intolerance.

The WEA formed a Religious Liberty Commission in 1994 to promote religious freedom worldwide as a fundamental human right in accordance primarily with Article 18 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. The WEA has undertaken educational efforts across its extensive affiliate base to promote the understanding of religious freedom as a human right. The Religious Liberty Commission monitors and responds to violations of religious freedom by calling on governments to live up to their international obligations to protect and promote human rights. The WEA has a large international network of Members of Parliament in many countries of the world who are committed to promoting human rights.

Rev. Johan Candelin is the Executive Director of the WEA Religious Liberty Commission and Goodwill Ambassador for the WEA. He has held this position since 1996. He is also the founder of the First Step Forum, which works at the highest levels of government to address issues of religious freedom in the early stages and promote protection and enhancement of human rights.

Activities

1. The WEA has also participated annually in the United Nations Commission on Human Rights. Rev. Candelin has met with Ambassadors to the United Nations in Geneva to encourage them to uphold religious freedom as a fundamental human right.

17 March - 27April 2001 – Rev. Johan Candelin, Executive Director of the WEA Religious Liberty Commission attended the 57th, 58th 59th and 60th sessions of the Commission on Human Rights in Geneva.

18 March- 26 April 2002 – Rev. Johan Candelin, Executive Director of the WEA Religious Liberty Commission attended Commission on Human Rights. Rev. Candelin submitted "The Geneva Report 2002: a Perspective on Global Religious Freedom" on the challenges facing Christian communities.

17 March-25 April 2003 – Rev. Johan Candelin, Executive Director of the WEA Religious Liberty Commission and Dr. Janet Epp Buckingham, member of the WEA Religious Liberty Commission and Director, Evangelical Fellowship of Canada Religious Liberty Commission attended Commission on Human Rights where Rev. Candelin submitted The Geneva Report 2003: A perspective on Global Religious Freedom.

15 March- 23 April 2004 – Rev. Johan Candelin, Executive Director of the WEA Religious Liberty Commission and Dr. Janet Epp Buckingham, member of the WEA Religious Liberty Commission and Director, Evangelical Fellowship of Canada Religious Liberty Commission attended UN Commission on Human Rights. Rev. Candelin submitted The Geneva Report 2004: A perspective on Global Religious Freedom. The WEA made a joint intervention on Sri Lanka at the Commission.

2. The WEA has also been a catalyst in the Micah Challenge, launched in September 2004, which promotes the Millennium Development Goals and calls on signatories to the Millennium Declaration to live up to the commitments they made to halve global poverty by 2015.

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Note by the Secretary-General

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1. International Association for Impact Assessment

(Special consultative status granted in 1989)

The organization was granted consultative status in 1989 and initially appointed one member liaison representative to a United Nations Office in New York. IAIA appointed member liaison representatives to the New York, Geneva, and Vienna sites for the current reporting period. In addition to official activities of the association, many individual members have contributed in their professional and private capacities to the work of the United Nations.

Aims and purposes of the organization

The International Association for Impact Assessment (IAIA) is primarily an educational organization for environmental professionals. It was organized 25 years ago, in 1980 to bring together researchers, practitioners, and users of various types of (environmental) impact assessment from all parts of the world. As of 2001, its membership numbered more than 2,500, including affiliate membership, from over 100 nations, a considerable increase from its early years of operation both in size and in distribution outside North America and Europe.

IAIA's goals are:

- To advance the state of the art of impact assessment in applications ranging from local to global, and
- To develop international and local capability to anticipate, plan, and manage the consequences of development to enhance the quality of life for all.

Much of the work of the association and its members is directly relevant to United Nations policies, programmes, and projects.

Although the membership is larger and much more international, the objectives of IAIA have not changed much over the past 25 years. Quoting from the by-laws adopted in 1980, "The Association has as its primary purpose the betterment of society through the encouragement of improved policymaking processes concerning the analysis of the future consequences of present decisions. In furtherance of this purpose the association may

1. Publish, edit, or otherwise disseminate to practitioners and the general public articles, journals, books, monographs, audio-visual materials, and newsletters concerning the practice of impact assessment;
2. Hold meetings, conferences, seminars, and other sessions at which information concerning the practice of impact assessment can be disseminated;
3. Promote, enhance, and encourage the exchange of information among practitioners and users of impact assessment and the general public;
4. Improve the quality and professionalism of persons in the field of impact assessment;
5. Otherwise encourage the growth and development of the field of impact assessment, the development of techniques in the field of impact assessment,

and the public understanding of and participation in the field of impact assessment;

6. Undertake such other activities as will further the purpose of the association.

Impact assessment is an umbrella term that encompasses many specialities of assessment, all of which work together to form a comprehensive assessment. Of particular relevance to United Nations concerns have been environmental impact assessment, biodiversity assessment, social impact assessment, health impact assessment, integrated impact assessment, and to a much lesser extent, technology assessment. In recent years, social impact assessment is finding application in various social development contexts, such as gender assessment and poverty assessment.

IAIA officers and members have participated in and contributed to a number of United Nations meetings over the past four years:

- *The World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD), Johannesburg, 26 August-4 September 2002*: IAIA organized and delivered a parallel event at the WSSD (a one-day forum entitled "*Impact Assessment, Sustainable Development and Capacity Building*") and participated in the WSSD prep-com in New York.

- *IAIA conference presentations and journal articles too numerous to detail here support United Nations interests in poverty, health, sustainability, trade, and integrated assessment* (for reference, see conference and journal abstracts on www.iaia.org).

- *Transboundary EIA (Environmental Impact Assessment)*: IAIA experts have participated in and contributed to the ongoing deliberations and work of the signatories to the Protocol on Strategic Environmental Assessment and IAIA has been an observer at the Meeting of the Parties to the Convention on EIA in a Trans-boundary Context.

- *Biodiversity*: At the 8th Meeting of the Conference of the Contracting Parties to the Ramsar Convention, Valencia, 23 November 2002, IAIA offered a side event on "*Impact Assessment and Ramsar*". Since 2001, IAIA has held a Memorandum of Understanding with the Bureau of the Convention on Wetlands (Ramsar) and has provided extensive technical support to both Ramsar and Convention on Biodiversity (CBD) activities. Much of the IAIA work in Biodiversity is spearheaded by its active Biodiversity and Ecology Section.

- *Health*: IAIA recruited a member to its Board of Directors from the United Nations World Health Organization (WHO) and during this reporting period has witnessed a dramatic increase in the interest and participation in the activities of its Health Impact Assessment Section, with active participation from key WHO staff.

- *Trade and Environment*: IAIA supports the United Nations Environmental Program (UNEP) training and capacity-building effort specifically via cooperation with the UNEP Trade and Environment Section. IAIA added a training component on its website during this reporting period; the website houses the "*UNEP Users' Training Resources Manual for Environmental Assessment*" as well as an interactive site for comments and questions about

the Manual. IAIA also participates in the UNEP Network of Institutions for Sustainable Development (NISD). IAIA made a presentation to the NISD meeting at Jeju Island, Republic of Korea, in 2004 on *"IAIA and Integrated Impact Assessment"*.

- *Capacity Development:* IAIA invited United Nations representatives from UNEP and UNDP to Marrakech, Morocco (2004) to help shape IAIA's capacity development initiative, known as the Marrakech Declaration, with the understanding that the resulting initiatives would support the mutual objectives of each organization, including the Millennium Development Goals established at WSSD.

IAIA looks forward to continued mutually supportive efforts with the United Nations in the years to come.

2. International Save the Children Alliance

(General consultative status granted in 1993)

Twenty-seven Save the Children organizations make up the International Save the Children Alliance, the world's largest independent movement for children, delivering improvements for children in over 110 countries.

In a world where children continue to go hungry, where they are victims of preventable disease, where they are abused and exploited, or denied access to education, Save the Children continues its work to give all children the best possible start in life, and to universally recognize their rights.

The United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC) underpins everything that Save the Children does. When it was near universally ratified ten years ago, it brought with it a renewed worldwide commitment to children's rights and improving their lives. The fight to achieve this has only just begun. Fundamental changes to attitudes, behaviour and overall commitment to children are vital to protect them from horrors of wars, poverty, exploitation and abuse. The Members of the International Save the Children Alliance, as one worldwide movement for children, see it as their role to continue the fight to keep this enormous challenge in the hearts and minds of everyone who can bring about benefits in the lives of children.

In order to achieve this, Save the Children works extensively with the United Nations through the United Nations primary organs, Member States and specialized agencies, funds and programmes, both at headquarters and in the field. In the period under review and continuing into the present, Save the Children has maintained a United Nations office in New York whose sole function is to interact with and contribute to the work of the United Nations. This has been done by participation in United Nations meetings, briefing United Nations Member States and agencies on child protection issues, and providing advice and guidance on technical issues under consideration by the United Nations. Some specific examples of this include:

- *The United Nations General Assembly Special Session on HIV/AIDS, New York, 25-27 June 2001* opened a window of opportunity for the international community to start working together to fight the disease. Through Save the

Children, Government delegates heard the views of many people on the frontline, including a young peer educator on HIV/AIDS who described the work she does in Lima, Peru. Our report, No Quick Fix: a sustained response to HIV/AIDS and children, gave world leaders a prescription for blocking the spread of HIV/AIDS and supporting the youngsters whose lives it is devastating.

- *The World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance, Durban, South Africa, 31 August-7 September 2001*

Due to the efforts of Save the Children, young people from Roma/Traveler communities and young Latin Americans of African descent had an opportunity to contribute to the debate attended by United Nations Member States. We were delighted that many of our concerns were reflected in the final conference Declaration and Programme of Action.

- *The United Nations General Assembly Special Session on Children, New York, 8-10 May 2002*

Save the Children participated in the most important international conference on children in more than a decade, at which the nations of the world committed themselves to a series of goals to improve the situation of children and young people. International Save the Children Alliance CEO, Burkhard Gnärig, addressed the meeting and urged the international community to adhere to vital priorities for global action, including ending child poverty, galvanizing the political will to move beyond words towards a practical, time-specific set of actions and making long-term investments in basic services which give every child a chance to reach their potential.

- During the first few months of 2003, people from all over the world were concerned about the effects a war might have on Iraqi children. The New York office was especially busy at the time, briefing the United Nations Security Council, in an Arria Formula meeting, as well as other senior United Nations staff. In September of 2003, Save the Children again briefed the Council under the Arria Formula, this time on Liberia and child protection concerns in light of the conflict there.

- In the period of 2001 to 2004, Save the Children regularly provided input into the children affected by armed conflict agenda of the United Nations. In January of 2004, we participated in an Arria Formula meeting with the Security Council on Children and Armed Conflict with a briefing detailing problems faced by children in Disarmament, Demobilization and Reintegration programmes. Each year, Save the Children has been consulted by the Secretary-General's Special Representative for Children and Armed Conflict as he prepared the annual report of the Secretary-General on Children and Armed Conflict to the Security Council.

Furthermore, Save the Children worked extensively with United Nations agencies in coordination and as an implementing partner at the field level in many of the 110 countries in which we are operational in the period from 2001 to 2004. A few specific examples of this include:

- Save the Children has been approached on a number of occasions by UNICEF in Serbia and Montenegro to help them implement some of their goals through

project activities. In one instance, we designed and implemented a three-year project on "Community Based Rehabilitation for children with disabilities" in Serbia and Montenegro. UNICEF provided funding for Save the Children to develop and support associations of parents with children with disabilities, set up community centres and toy libraries for them and thus provide an inclusive model for active involvement of children with disabilities in mainstream society. The project went on for three years and covered 14 cities across Serbia and Montenegro, followed by a joint Save the Children-UNICEF survey on public attitudes towards inclusion of children with disabilities.

- Save the Children was asked to take the lead in coordinating child participation for the Regional Consultations (2003-2004) of the United Nations Study on Violence Against Children. We organized and facilitated processes resulting in genuine participation of children with respect to the main principles and standards of good practice in child participation. We shared our organizational learning with the other key players to ensure children were involved and provided with the opportunity to voice their opinions in an appropriate and child-friendly manner.

- In Iraq in 2002, following our research into children's treatment under the juvenile justice system, we worked with the Health and Social Affairs Ministry, together with UNICEF, to ensure that child protection was upheld.

These activities at both the field and headquarters level are just a few of the many ways in which the International Save the Children Alliance has contributed to and supported the work of the United Nations from 2001 to 2004.

3. Law Association for Asia and the Pacific

(Special consultative status granted in 1981)

LAWASIA, the Law Association for Asia and the Pacific, was established in 1966 and has continued to function as the pre-eminent legal association representing the profession of the region. Its aims and objectives include, inter alia:

- To promote the administration of justice, the protection of human rights and the maintenance of the rule of law within the region.

- To advance the standard of legal education within the region by all practicable means.

- To encourage communication and liaison between members in relation to general and specialized areas of law.

- To promote development of the law in the region.

- To advance the science of jurisprudence in all its phases and to promote the study and development of international law and of comparative law.

- To promote uniformity within the region in appropriate fields of law.

- To further international understanding and goodwill.

- To foster relations and intercourse between lawyers and associations and organizations of lawyers within the region.

- To uphold and advance the status of the legal profession within the region.

LAWASIA achieves its aims and objectives through provision of high-level continuing legal education at regular conferences and seminars, by promoting interface of national bodies at meetings throughout the region, through release of public statements, letters and other interventions on issues of importance to the legal profession and through provision of publications and other material aimed at increasing legal education in the region in support of the rule of law. Importantly, it provides a representative voice for the legal profession of the region, which is facilitated through the membership of national legal associations.

Official member countries/regions are:

Afghanistan, Australia, Bangladesh, China, Fiji, Hong Kong Special Administrative Region of China, India, Indonesia, Islamic Republic of Iran, Japan, Republic of Korea, Macau Special Administrative Region of China, Malaysia, Nepal, New Zealand, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Russian Federation, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Samoa, Viet Nam

The peak legal body of each of these countries holds a seat on the LAWASIA Council, which meets annually at various locations throughout the region. Since its last quadrennial report, LAWASIA has added Viet Nam to its member countries. LAWASIA continues to maintain dialogue with non-member countries in the region, with the aim of reminding them of the value of a regional interface of the legal profession in upholding the rule of law and promoting human rights.

In addition to member organizations representing the above-noted countries, LAWASIA has approximately 1,500 individual members drawn from the above as well as from Austria, Bermuda, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Canada, Chile, Germany, Guam, Italy, Myanmar, Netherlands, Peru, Switzerland, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America.

Funding

LAWASIA is funded by income raised through membership fees, conference activity and publications. The government of the Northern Territory of Australia also provided operational funding of AUS 75,000, AUS 50,000 and AUS 12,500 in 2001, 2002 and 2003 respectively, and a suite of premises to house the organization's secretariat. December 2003 saw this arrangement cease, and LAWASIA relocated its secretariat to the Queensland Law Society (QLS) in Brisbane, Queensland. It now receives annual funding of AUS 50,000 from the QLS and AUS 50,000 from the Law Foundation of Queensland, as well as a small office suite at the QLS premises. The Law Council of Australia has continued to support LAWASIA with an annual capitation grant of approximately AUS 25,000.

While LAWASIA is not sufficiently funded to send attendees to Economic and Social Council and other United Nations meetings and conferences, it retains a great interest in and publicises its support of the activities of the Council and the United Nations generally.

Professor Maxime Tardu has been the accredited representative on a voluntary basis for LAWASIA at the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific and at the United Nations Office at Geneva (UNOG) since 1991 and regularly observes sessions of the United Nations Human Rights Commission. His reports to the LAWASIA secretariat on United Nations activities that he attended are included in the organization's newsletter, the LAWASIA Update, as they are received, and are passed to the LAWASIA Council and Executive Committee for consideration. The LAWASIA president is also an accredited representative, so that he or she is able to attend relevant meetings if the opportunity to travel to United Nations centres in Europe and the United States should arise. Wherever possible and appropriate, United Nations representatives are among especially targeted speakers for LAWASIA conferences and meetings within the relevance of the material under discussion. The LAWASIA Update regularly carries reports and news of United Nations initiatives.

As a voice for the legal profession of the Asia Pacific region, LAWASIA has undertaken a number of interventions, has written letters, has sent observer missions and has released public and media statements on matters of concern to the legal profession. Wherever appropriate, it formulates its views and public statements based on United Nations principles, conventions, resolutions or actions. Examples from the reporting period include (but are not limited to):

- October 2001: Statement on events of 11 September 2001, encouraging adherence to principles of international law in formulating responses;
- October 2002: Statement on international tension, encouraging initiatives through appropriate United Nations bodies to improve dialogue and understanding between competing philosophies as a means of containing international tension and in particular military action or the threat of military action;
- September 2003: Statement condemning the bombing of United Nations Headquarters in Baghdad;
- October 2003: Letter to Minister of Home Affairs, Zimbabwe, following harassment of a human rights lawyer, requesting that Zimbabwe Government honours its obligation under article 17 of United Nation Principles on the Role of Lawyers;
- April 2004: Letter to Thai Prime Minister in relation to disappearance of a Thai lawyer requesting the Thai Government to be active in upholding the United Nation Principles on the Role of Lawyers;

In 2002/03, LAWASIA recommenced correspondence with the Lawyers Association of Afghanistan (LAA), which was aiming to re-establish itself following the demise of the Taliban regime. It extended ongoing complementary membership to the LAA in recognition of the financial hardship LAA faced, and provided encouragement and practical assistance where possible.

LAWASIA has continued to monitor closely and report on development of the legal system and profession in Timor-Leste since that country became independent.

It has worked with its member organization in Nepal, the Nepal Bar Association, to support the significant efforts of the legal community to see democracy and proper observance of human rights restored to that country and has

been active in bringing that situation to the attention of the region's legal community.

In addition, LAWASIA regularly disseminates the information received from a number of United Nations bodies to its Country Councillors and member organizations as a means of bringing United Nations activities to the attention of the legal profession in member countries.

4. League of Kenya Women Voters

(Special consultative status granted in 2001)

Area of activity:

A national non-partisan political women's membership organization committed to empowerment of women in Kenya. Our mission is to work together with others to promote women's active, free and equal participation in politics and public affairs through the electoral process as voters and leaders.

The League has over 20,000 members in Kenya, including Life members, Annual members and Associate members.

Sources of funding:

The League's programmes projects during this period were funded by local donors among them the Ford Foundation, British Department of Foreign Affairs and International Development (DfID), Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA), Danish Development Agency (DANIDA), International Republican Institute (IRI), National Endowment for Democracy (NED), Swedish International Development Agency (SIDA), The Royal Netherlands Embassy, United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM), United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), United States Agency for International Development (USAID), Action Aid, Norwegian Embassy and Friedrich Ebert Stiftung (FES).

The League's participation in and contribution to the work of the United Nations

1. *Participation in meetings of the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW)*

Delegates were sent to the 45th, 46th, 47th and 48th sessions of the CSW in New York (6-16 March 2003; 4-15 March 2002; 3-14 March 2003 and 1-12 March 2004).

The League actively participated in the planning process on the Commission on the Status of Women sessions through preparation of national reports of women's organizations, particularly on the government initiatives to implement the Beijing Declaration and the 12 critical areas of the Platform for Action.

The planning progress with other organizations has been to agree on modalities of presenting such a formidable force as the Kenyan Women's movement delegation to the CSW sessions and to discuss how to engage the Government process to strengthen the Kenyan Delegation. The goal has been to bring women's organizations together in an effort to consolidate gains; to focus on key thematic

areas under the Beijing Platform for Action (BPFA), and, to develop positions to defend or introduce at the CSW sessions regarding contemporary issues facing Kenya, including challenges to reproductive rights and safeguarding women's gains through the constitutional review process. After the CSW sessions, the League over the years organized a number of dissemination forums to bring together the government and national and grass-roots players aimed at disseminating information from CSW and articulating the new strategies of implementing BPFA and the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, particularly through the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs).

2. The League's economic empowerment programme

The League is working closely with the national anti-poverty initiatives in addressing poverty at the grass-roots level using a community-oriented savings and credit cooperative called Shirikisho la Wanawake Savings and Credit Society Limited (Shilawa Sacco) under its economic empowerment programme. The objective of this programme is to empower women economically so that they can use their financial stability to pursue democratic ideals as informed and gender conscious voters and leaders.

Shilawa Sacco was established in 2001 with financial assistance from the UNIFEM East and Horn of Africa office in Nairobi. Currently, the Sacco has over 1,700 members and boasts of share capital of over US$ 80,000, loans advances amounting to US$ 67,000 and 14 district branches in Kenya. The vision of Shilawa Sacco is to transform itself into a member's cooperative bank by the year 2015.

3. Women's access to justice through the League's paralegal project

The League has implemented a project on women's access to justice using paralegal volunteers at the grass-roots level with funding from SIDA-Sweden.

This project started in 2001 and aims to empower women to access justice and seek legal redress by creating awareness on human and legal rights, provide paralegal counselling and services through community-based counsellors, and provide paralegal support to administrators of justice at the local level in order to improve the "supply-side" of rights. The project is being implemented in six districts in Kenya. The impact has been that human rights violations at community level are highlighted and channelled to their respective domains in an endeavour to seek redress.

The League started in late 2004 the process of developing a gender-sensitive curriculum with funding from Action Aid Kenya to guide on training on topics related to women's rights.

4. "Initiative for Enhanced Participation of Women in Democratic Development" (1999 to June 2005) project funded by UNDP

The "Initiative for Enhanced Participation of Women in Democratic Development" project is aimed at supporting participatory development, effective governance and democratic development by increasing the level and quality of participation of women in decision-making and democratic processes.

Through this project, the League disseminated gender-sensitive civic education radio programme in national language to 5 million people every week for a period

of five and a half years. The objective was to change attitudes and practices hindering women's progress while empowering women with the information necessary to assert their rights and participate effectively in decision-making and democratic governance. This led to enhanced civic awareness and appreciation of women leadership, evident in the doubling of women members of Parliament in the 2002 general elections, and increased debate on women's rights both at the national and the grass-roots levels.

The project also facilitated the development of a gender-sensitive civic education curriculum now used by over 30 Civic Education providers in Kenya as a tool of training civic educators. A resource centre/information bureau was also established at the League secretariat in the course of implementing the project. This facility has remained a key tool for research, particularly in informing League programmes. It is also being utilized by other civil society organizations, government departments and scholars seeking information on women empowerment. The resource centre is equipped with over 2,000 books and publications, audio and videotapes with various titles on gender issues.

The League's capacity to effectively implement projects has been enhanced through establishment of an Audio-visual Studio at the League secretariat and secondment of the United Nations Volunteers (UNVs) to the League during the period of implementing this project.

5. *"Deepening Democracy through Political Accountability: A Gender Perspective" (2004) project funded by Norwegian Embassy*

The aim of the project was to increase the effectiveness of women members of Parliament through visibility, active local level engagement and citizen's participation at the constituency level.

One of the major activities of the project was conducting of "Democracy hearing forums" in constituencies with elected women members of Parliament aimed at increasing dialogue between women Members of Parliament (MPs) and their constituents, thereby promoting democracy, accountability and good governance. The forums provided an opportunity for the constituents to outline their expectations, major development priorities and to plan together with the MP. The forums assisted the MPs to understand clearly the needs of the constituents to enable them to steer development in the right direction and therefore increase democracy and local participation in governance.

The project also conducted training of the "radio listening groups" — ad hoc groups formed in various districts in the country to give feedback on the League's weekly radio programme aimed at building the capacity of the groups in regards to active listenership and to initiating advocacy on pertinent issues raised in the programme. The project facilitated production and airing of a number of radio programmes aimed to increase the visibility of women MPs by giving them an opportunity to provide their input in key topical and current developmental issues including the constitutional review process, HIV/AIDS and the Beijing Platform for Action.

6. National Facilitation Initiative

The National Facilitative Initiative project in Taita Taveta district was implemented between September 2002 to August 2004 in collaboration with UNIFEM and the Government of Kenya with financial assistance from CIDA — Canada.

The main objective of the project was to promote the observance of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) and implementation of the Beijing Platform for Action (BPFA) in key aspects of governance, economy, security, education, HIV/AIDS, and the elimination of violence against women. This was out of the realization that though Kenya is a signatory of CEDAW and BPFA, it had not taken necessary steps to institutionalize and implement these instruments at the grass-roots level. As a result, violation of women's rights was on the increase and women continued to be discriminated against in various sectors of development at the grass-roots level. This has perpetuated gender inequities and increased poverty among women and the society in general.

The focus was therefore to create awareness on relevant issues pertaining to the 12 critical areas of concern in the BPFA and to ensure that the issues pertaining to CEDAW are also understood in the district.

To achieve the set goals, the League carried out a number of activities. The gender training workshops increased gender awareness in the community and enhanced skills for the policymakers to mainstream women's concerns in district development plans. The gender resource centre enhanced the capacity of local women to use new technologies, especially accessing information through the Internet to facilitate easier access to information by women on these instruments. The resource centre is now managed by the District Development Office (DDO). The trainings initiated by the League are still going on.

The League also conducted gender forums which sensitized the community on women representation in all local development committees. As a result, women now constitute at least a third of all the committees in the district.

The gender disaggregated database that was developed in the course of implementing the project, provide clear gender-gaps in the 12 critical areas of BPFA and CEDAW. This database is a resource for reporting on the progress made in Kenya in realization of the provisions of BPFA and CEDAW. Moreover, it is a vital instrument for people who would want to work within the community in ensuring that interventions are relevant and effective.

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1. International Road Transport Union

Special consultative status granted in 1949

1. Objective, geographical extension, priorities

The objective of the IRU is "to contribute, in the interest of society as whole, to the development and prosperity, in all countries, of domestic and international road transport and to safeguard the role of road transport for hire and reward and on own account".

Since 2001, the IRU has admitted new Members from Canada, China, Malta, Pakistan and Turkey. At 31 December 2004, the IRU had 176 members in 67 countries.

The IRU's priorities are the facilitation of road transport, trade and tourism and sustainable development.

2. IRU – United Nations Co-operation: Facilitation of road transport, trade and tourism

The IRU has been an active participant at annual meetings of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe Inland Transport Committee (UNECE) and its Principal Working Party on Road Transport. The main questions addressed by the IRU through written and oral contributions include:

a. Facilitation of international road transport

- Submission of proposals on the facilitation of border crossings in central and eastern Europe;
- Submission of various proposals on the mitigation of the visa problem for professional drivers employed in international transport;
- Participation in the ongoing discussion of an IRU proposal to adopt a new Annex on the facilitation of border crossings by road to the International Convention on the Harmonisation of Frontier Controls of Goods (1982);
- Active contribution to debates on enhancing supply chain security; presentation of the IRU Guidelines on Road Transport Security;
- Submission of the road transport industry's point of view on fiscal measures affecting road transport.

b. United Nations Agreements and Conventions

- Active promotion of the adoption and practical implementation of United Nations multilateral legal instruments on road transport in central and eastern Europe, in particular in newly independent states, as well as in Asia, including China;
- Support for finding the appropriate legal form for the use of an electronic waybill under the Convention on the contract for the international carriage of goods by road;

- Contribution to the elaboration of a draft Revision of the European Agreement concerning the work of crews of vehicles engaged in international road transport in order to integrate the use of the digital tachograph;
- Participation in the discussion on a draft Revision of the Consolidated Resolution on the Facilitation of Road Transport on the basis of a previous IRU proposal; The revision was adopted on 20 April 2004.

c. Assistance to countries in transition and developing countries

- Realisation of the IRU Strategy for the enlargement of the European Union; regular progress reports on the state of the matter in the road transport sector in candidate countries;
- Reinforcement of the IRU Permanent Delegation and Liaison Committee to the CIS in Moscow;
- Organisation of seminars and conferences on aspects of transition and E-W co-operation in transport (East-West Road Transport Conferences in Budapest, Hungary (15-16 May 2003) and Tallinn, Estonia (19-20 May 2005), Euro-Asian Road Transport Conferences in Irkutsk, Russian Federation (13-14 September 2001) and Tehran, Islamic Republic of Iran (6-7 October 2003).
- Publication of the 4th edition of the IRU Handbook on Road Transport Facilitation, Legislation and Practices, including a special chapter on the UNECE acquis (23 April 2004);
- The IRU is one of the partner agencies in the implementation of the Almaty Programme of Action developed under the auspices of the United Nations Office of the High Representative for Landlocked and Least Developed Countries and approved by the United Nations General Assembly. During the last four years, the IRU has developed constructive cooperation with the secretariats of the United Nations Regional Commissions in Western Asia (UNESCWA) and Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP).

d. TIR (Transports Internationaux Routiers)

- For over 50 years, the IRU has organised and ensured the efficient functioning of the TIR International Guarantee Chain established by the TIR Convention.
- The IRU has continued to play an active and major role, including in the work of TIR Executive Board, through contributions, reports and proposals aimed at improving the functioning and ensuring the sustainability of the TIR System.
- The IRU developed and participates actively in the implementation of an international risk management system for TIR Carnets, set up in accordance with the Recommendation by the Administrative Committee of the TIR Convention, dated 20.10.95, developing a computerised network between 56 customs administrations, national transport associations and the IRU. Since that date, the IRU has appealed for the introduction of this control system in the TIR Convention itself. Despite the obvious benefits of this vital risk management tool, in October 2004, almost 10 years after the system was created, there was still one Contracting party not ready to accept that this tool be included in the Convention. *(NB: This was subsequently approved in February 2005.)*
- The IRU continues to actively work towards the computerisation of TIR procedures in order to ensure that expectations are realistic and useful for all transport, trade and customs administrations.

- The IRU continued its annual transfer of funds to cover the budget of the TIR Executive Boar and the TIR Secretariat, as it has done since their creation.

3. IRU – United Nations Cooperation: Sustainable development

a. Sustainable development

United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)

- As a preparatory initiative to the World Summit on Sustainable Development held i Johannesburg in September 2002, UNEP invited the IRU to write a report on road transport contribution to sustainable development comprising the IRU's strategy and achievements and th remaining challenges for the sector. The report was discussed in a multi-stakeholder dialogue wit representatives of civil society, the scientific community and political decision makers. The fina report, as well as the IRU strategy on innovation, incentives and infrastructure, was endorsed b all the stakeholders and, through its publication as an official UNEP sector report at the world summit, by UNEP itself.

b. Road safety

- Complementing the United Nations General Assembly plenary session on road safety, a separat stakeholders' meeting was held in New York in April 2004 at which the IRU confirmed the roa transport sector's commitment to help improve road safety, highlighted public and private roa safety initiatives and proposed a world road safety charter. This idea was subsequently taken up b the WHO-World Bank report on "Road Traffic Injury and Prevention" and a WHO-United Nations Road Safety Collaboration meeting was held in 2004.
- The IRU followed the work of the UNECE Working Party on Road Traffic Safety, attending it meetings, informing the members of its own Road Safety Commission about its work and defining with the latter, standpoints to be defended at the former.
- The report of the UNECE's Multidisciplinary Group of Experts on Safety in Tunnels was adopte in January 2002 and its recommendations submitted to the various competent subsidiary bodies o the Inland Transport Committee. The IRU took an active part in its meetings and persuaded the UNECE to recommend that twin-tube tunnels be used on all routes with major traffic flows. This undoubtedly encouraged the European Commission to include a similar recommendation in its draft Directive on Tunnel Safety, published at the end of 2002.

c. International carriage of dangerous goods by road (ADR)

- The IRU contributed in a considerable way to the UNECE's Working Party on the Transport of Dangerous Goods and joint meetings on the European Agreements concerning the international transport of dangerous goods by rail, road and inland waterways.
- The IRU took the initiative of developing, together with other industry players, common industry guidelines on security in the transport of dangerous goods, which make up chapter 1.10 of the

agreement governing transport of dangerous goods by road, and which are at the disposal of government representatives.

- The IRU organised and presided over a special working group comprised of representatives from Contracting Parties and industry and whose aim was the harmonisation of regulations for training and for the examination of safety advisers.
- The IRU also strongly supported the initiative of the Secretariat to facilitate transit through tunnels according to classes.

d. Combined Transport

- The IRU continues to present information to enrich the discussions on intermodal transport. It also collaborated in the European Conference of Ministers of Transport questionnaire on the impact of the consolidated resolution on combined transport.

e. Construction of Vehicles

- The IRU actively followed the debates in Geological Remote Sensing Group on investigating the effects of belted passengers on energy calculations and the resulting survival rate during a vehicle rollover.
- The IRU also participated in meetings of the Working Party on Light and Light-Signalling dealing with the amendment to impose retro-reflective markings on certain types of vehicles to improve visibility at night and hence road safety.

2. Mani Tese '76

Special consultative status granted in 1997

The NGO – Overview and fields of activity

Mani Tese is an Italian development NGO operating at national and international level to further justice, solidarity, promotion of human rights and respect among people. Since its foundation in 1964, Mani Tese has pursued this aim by raising public awareness on the causes of poverty in the South, lobbying policy makers and institutions and implementing development projects which, beside responding to the needs of the poor, may initiate a process of self determination and self reliance.

Up to the end of 2004 Mani Tese had implemented - together with local partners – more than 2080 development projects in Africa, Asia and Latin America, in the areas of education, agriculture, infrastructures, support to cooperatives, human rights (particularly child rights, women rights, ethnic minorities) governance, micro-credit, health, humanitarian aid, and integrated programs.

An important role in the organization is played by 1000 volunteers and 50 Mani Tese's local groups spread all over the country. They raise funds by organizing different activities locally in several Italian cities.

The National Secretariat organizes a number of initiatives at the national, regional and lo levels, often in collaboration with other NGOs, research centers, or universities.

In particular, Mani Tese organizes meetings, conferences and workshops on speci development issues such as debt, trade, aid, peace. Campaigns and lobbying initiatives are undertak in order to raise awareness on development issues and to influence national and international politi authorities on crucial problems.

To be more effective, Mani Tese is a permanent member of national networks (ASSEMBLE ONG ITALIANE, FORUM TERZO SETTORE) and international non-governmental bodies such EUROSTEP, CONGO, SOCIAL WATCH, GLOBAL MARCH AGAINST CHILD LABOUR, as w as of ad hoc campaigns.

Cres-ManiTese, a group of teachers, provides consultancy on development education in t schools, organizes training courses and publishes literature for teachers. It is recognized by the Itali Ministry of Education.

At Milan headquarters a documentation center services students teachers, journalists, NGOs. Mani Tese publishes and distributes 46.000 copies of its monthly magazine , books, posters, dossie audiovisuals and Cd ROMs.

Financial resources are mainly provided by Mani Tese's local groups, by public at large, by t 1.000 members of Mani Tese, its supporters, and by the European Commission, the Italian Ministry Foreign Affairs, Italian Local Authorities.

Mani Tese is a legal entity, registered non profit development organization, declared a publ utility by decree of the President of the Italian Republic. It is accredited to the Italian Ministry Foreign Affairs, the European Union and the United Nations as Consultant NGO.

UN Related activities in 2001

- in April (2^{nd} – 3^{rd}) Mani Tese has organised the "European Conference on Child Labour" with th cooperation and participation of ILO and the International Programme on the Elimination of Chil Labour (IPEC);
- Mani Tese has participated in the preparatory process leading to UN Conference on Financing fo Development. At the spring Prep Com (2^{nd} – 8^{th} May) the Social Watch report was launched monitoring the commitments undertaken in Copenhagen on Social Development;
- in June (11^{th} – 15^{th}) Mani Tese, as European Coordinator of the Global March against Chil Labour, has participated in the prep-com for the UNGASS on the Rights of the Child;
- in October (11^{th} – 13^{th}) Mani Tese has been actively participating in the IVth Assembly of th Tavola della Pace/ONU dei Popoli;
- Mani Tese has been admitted at the NGO Parallel Group on the Convention on the Rights of th Child.

UN Related activities for 2002

- In March (18th – 22nd) Mani Tese has participated in the UN World Conference on Financing for Development held in Monterey, Mexico;
- In May (8th – 10th) Mani Tese has been actively participating in the United Nations General Assembly Special Session on the Rights of the Child and brought its contribution, as European Co-ordinator of the Global March against Child Labour, to the final document "A World Fit for Children";
- In June (10th – 13th) Mani Tese has participated in the FAO Conference in Rome and in the national preparatory civil society actions..

UN RELATED ACTIVITIES IN 2003

- In May (16th, 17th, 18th) Mani Tese, as European Co-ordinator of the Global March against Child Labour, has implemented the Campaign "Exploitation to Education" on the territory of the EU, with a focus on girls' education and asking for the implementation of UN commitments on education for all; from May Mani Tese has been preparing the 2004 Children's World Congress on Child Labour in close co-operation with ILO IPEC;
- In the period June 30th – July 25th , Mani Tese has been participating in the ECOSOC Substantive Session in Geneva, particularly focusing on the initiatives concerning the regional perspectives of trade negotiations (in view of the participation of the Association in the Italian Official Delegation at Cancun WTO Round) as well as on human rights;
- On September 15th Mani Tese has presented the part on child labour and education within the Parallel Report to the Italian Official Report on the implementation of the Convention on the Rights of the Child, before the UN Committee for the Rights of the Child at its 34th Session;
- As active member of the Social Watch Coalition, Mani Tese has been disseminating the contents of Social Watch related to UNDP activities.
- As member of the Board, Mani Tese has actively participated in the organization and in the initiatives of the Tavola della Pace/ONU dei Popoli held during the month of October.

UN Related activities in 2004

- As from April the International Relations In-Charge of Mani Tese has been following the planning and launch of the Global Call to Action Against Poverty, very closely connected with UNDP activities on the achievement of MDGs in view of the World Summit of 2005;
- In May (10th – 13th) Mani Tese, as European Co-ordinator of the Global March against Child Labour - together with the Italian Trade Unions, under the auspices of the ILO, with the High Patronage of the President of the Italian Republic and the support of the Region of Tuscany – has organised the First Children's World Congress on Child Labour. The Congress, that has been strongly requiring implementation of UN Instruments on human rights and ILO Conventions 138 and 182, has been planned with close co-operation with UN agencies and has seen the participation of speakers from ILO (among them the General Director of IPEC/ILO), UNESCO, World Bank;

- In September (8th – 10th) the Mani Tese has participated in the 2004 Session of the UN DPI , organising a parallel event on the role of Europe in achieving MDGs , together with Eurostep, of which Mani Tese is Member;
- In November (12th – 13th) Mani Tese has organised the course "Education and Development" for Institute for International Policies of Milan, linking with ILO and with the participation of ILO Rome Director. The course has been widely promoting and disseminating the issues concerning the UN (especially of UNDP and UNESCO) on the implementation of MDGs;
- on 10th December Mani Tese has participated in the Conference "Child Labour and Girls Education" organised by ILO – UNICEF – World Bank Tripartite Programme and the University of Tor Vergata in Rome;
- As member of Eurostep and active part of the Italian branch of the Global Call to Action against Poverty, Mani Tese closely monitored the Action of EU towards the implementation of MDGs;
- As active member of the Italian Network on Corporate Social Accountability ", Mani Tese has been closely promoting the dissemination of UN Norms on Multinational Enterprises and Human Rights adopted by the UN Subcommission on Human Rights.

3. Rural Reconstruction Nepal

Special consultative status granted in 1997

Rural Reconstruction Nepal (RRN), since its inception in 1989, has now successfully grown into one of the leading non-governmental organizations in Nepal with a family of more than 650 dedicated staff and volunteers serving 700,000 rural poor; particularly women, the landless and small farmers, ethnic minorities and the most disadvantaged and socially oppressed strata of the Nepalese society, namely, the traditional occupational "untouchable" caste groups known as Dalits and the traditional bonded laborers, now freed, known as Kamaryas. It has three regional offices in the western, central and eastern regions with project offices in working districts, spreading from the Far-West to the East of Nepal. The central office is located in the capital city of Kathmandu.

RRN's integrated community development projects are based on the four-fold approach of rural reconstruction - education and awareness, health, sustainable livelihoods and self government - in order to effectively respond to the basic needs of the impoverished. RRN, therefore, implements programmes focusing on sustainable agriculture, community forestry, agro-forestry, irrigation, drinking water supply and sanitation, community health, savings and micro-credit, child and adult education, community mobilization, institutional development, disaster preparedness, conflict resolution and resource development and management. RRN's programme interventions aim to ensure the realization of all human rights, poverty eradication, people's empowerment and social transformation through the process of facilitation, social mobilization and self-government. It has explicitly adopted a rights based approach to its development programmes which implies changing systems, actions and priorities to respect and empower people with their rights. RRN's programme work at the grassroots level is supported and enhanced by policy, research and advocacy activities undertaken at the national, regional and international levels, in collaboration with other like minded organizations, at home and abroad.

A key achievement, during the reporting period, was the fact that RRN continued to work successfully 'in conflict' despite the many risks, challenges and uncertainties. Since 2000, the Maoist insurgency and counter insurgency has gained its worst intensity and mortality levels, making it even more difficult for development organizations to operate in remote rural communities. Through its development projects, RRN maintained and strengthened social and economic capital at the local level by bringing community people together to identify, prioritize and implement projects of collective urgency. Engaging the community members in the implementation and monitoring of their schemes has contributed to institutionalizing local leadership in community governance, and has been one of the main underlying causes of our continued success even at times of conflict. Also, the rights based approach followed by RRN greatly enhanced the effectiveness of its development endeavors, particularly given the existing conflict scenario and the consequent daily violations of fundamental human rights, which is gradually taking the shape of a grave humanitarian crisis.

During the reporting period, RRN contributed to the work of ECOSOC through its lobbying and policy advocacy programmes, carrying a pro-poor and pro-people voice to the various UN platforms. RRN has participated in several UN conferences including:

- Global Environment Facility (GEF) Council and NGO Consultation Meeting, Washington DC, 8-11 May 2001
- Third United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, Brussels, 10-20 May 2001
- 26th Session of the Committee on International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, Geneva, 13-31 August 2001
- Preparatory Committee Meeting for the International Conference on Financing for Development, New York, 15-19 October 2001
- Preparatory Committee Meeting on the 4th Session of the Financing for Development, New York, 14-25 January 2002
- Preparatory Committee Meeting for World Summit on Sustainable Development, New York, 28 February -10 March 2002
- World Civil Society Steering Committee Meeting, Geneva, 10 April 2002
- World Civil Society Forum, Geneva, 14-19 July 2002
- World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesbourg, 26 August – 4 September 2002
- Seminar on "Global Governance in Crisis: Challenges to the UN and Global Civil Society", Geneva, 4-6 June 2003
- ECOSOC Meeting on Least Developed Countries, Geneva, 13-18 July 2003
- GEF Council Meeting, Washington DC, 16-21 November 2003
- ECOSOC High-level Segment preparatory meeting, New York, 17 February 2004
- ECOSOC High-level Segment, New York, 28-30 June 2004

In addition to RRN's policy advocacy and lobbying work, it has contributed to the goals of ECOSOC through the implementation of the Arun Valley Sustainable Resource Use and Management Pilot Demonstration Project. RRN's accreditation with the GEF enabled it to successfully implement the project in the Arun Valley of Sankhuwa-sabha district in eastern Nepal from February 2001-January 2004. Arun Valley is one of the most important mountainous regions, embodying rich flora and fauna of global significance, in Nepal. It is, therefore, imperative that its natural resources need to

be managed with proper understanding of social and environmental sustainability. The project aim to conserve the biodiversity and the forest ecosystem of selected watershed areas of Arun Valley; develop a community based sustainable natural resource use model applying indigenous knowled systems; to develop alternative renewable energy sources through the promotion of locally adapte fast growing energy plants and micro-hydro schemes; to improve the living conditions of th inhabitants of the project sites through livelihood and income generating schemes and to find o economic and policy incentives to promote traditional knowledge of communities for conservin biodiversity. AVASRUM PDP was able to reach out to 1,517 beneficiaries at the end of the proje period.

4. World Movement of Mothers

General consultative status granted in 2004

Mission

To ensure that mothers' voices are heard and to develop their abilities.

Aims

To motivate mothers and bring them together.

To maintain and develop networks for the exchange of information and know-how among associations from all cultures.

To reduce forms of discrimination, exclusion and violence against mothers and children.

To educate and raise the awareness of the public and leaders about the essential role of mothers in peacebuilding, both within their families and in their social, economic and political surroundings.

To support and promote the interests of mothers and children within national and international bodies.

Geographical distribution

More than 60 women's and family associations and associations working for the benefit of children from around 40 countries are members of the World Movement of Mothers (WMM). Since 2001, it has established relations with the following countries: Bangladesh, the Congo, Côte d'Ivoire and Lebanon.

Participation in conferences, meetings and committees

New York

- 2001

– Second session of the Preparatory Committee for the follow-up to the World Summit for Children (29 January-2 February)

– Third session of the Preparatory Committee for the follow-up to the World Summit for Children (11-15 June)

WMM actively followed these sessions, calling for more energetic support for the family, which forms the basis of society. Meetings with delegations from various countries and discussions of texts and their implications.

– Forty-fifth session of the Commission on the Status of Women (6-16 March)

Along with other NGOs, WMM representatives met with delegations from various countries in order to discuss texts and their implications.

- 2002

– Forty-sixth session of the Commission on the Status of Women (4-15 March)

Preparation of texts; participation in workshops on peace and in the meeting on the organization of the International Conference on Financing for Development (18-22 March in Monterrey, Mexico); meeting with Mr. Amr Ghaleb of the United Nations Family Unit concerning the tenth anniversary of the International Year of the Family in 2004.

– Special session on children (8-10 May)

WMM prepared a statement on the important role of the family, which was presented in plenary meeting.

- 2003

– Forty-first session of the Commission for Social Development (10-21 February)

– Forty-seventh session of the Commission on the Status of Women (3-14 March)

Geneva

- 2001

– Meetings of the Conference of Non-Governmental Organizations in Consultative Relationship with the United Nations (CONGO) (Non-Governmental Organization Committee)

WMM attended most CONGO meetings, including subcommittee meetings dealing with issues relating to women, human rights, disarmament and peace.

– Fifty-seventh session of the Commission on Human Rights (February-April)

Together with other NGOs, WMM gathered information, made official statements at various meetings and organized round tables on human rights violations.

– World Conference against Racism

WMM took part in several PrepCom (Preparatory Committee) meetings in Geneva before the Conference, which was held in Durban from 31 August to 7 September.

• 2002

– Fifty-eighth session of the Commission on Human Rights (18 March-26 April)

WMM took part in the session and organized two round tables on the effects of economic sanctions and violations of the rights of children, mothers and the family in Iraq and in the Occupied Territories.

– Fifty-fourth session of the Sub-Commission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights (29 July-16 August)

– CONGO Preparatory Committee Meeting (PrepCom) for the World Summit on the Information Society

– WMM worked regularly with two committees:

– The NGO Committee on Human Rights which, inter alia, organized a forum on the topic "Poverty and the right to food" during the session of the Sub-Commission;

– The NGO Committee on the Status of Women, including in a working group on peace.

• 2003

WMM was not represented in Geneva in 2003.

• 2004

– Fifty-sixth session of the Sub-Commission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights (26 July-13 August)

Human trafficking, separating parents and children.

– Regional meeting (Europe) for the Doha International Conference for the Family (23-25 August)

– Committee on the Rights of the Child

Day of general discussion on the topic of "Implementing child rights in early childhood", 17 September.

General assembly of the Committee (10-11 November).

– NGO Committee on the Status of Women

– Preparation for the NGO Forum (workshop on trafficking) (12-13 December)

– NGO Forum for the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) region (14-15 December)

– Women Defending Peace Conference (22-24 November)

– World Day to Overcome Extreme Poverty (17 October)

– World Day for Prevention of Child Abuse, organized by the Women's World Summit Foundation (WWSF) (19 November)

Vienna

- 2001

  - NGO Committee on the Family

  - NGO Committee on the Status of Women

  - NGO Committee on Ageing

- 2002

  - Participation in the meetings of the above committees. The representative of WMM was elected Secretary of the NGO Committee on Ageing.

  - Regular participation in the preparatory meetings for the International Forum of the NGO Committee on the Family.

- 2003

  - WMM participated actively in the NGO Committee on the Family, which was preparing for the International Year of the Family (2004). Considerable attention was devoted to the role of fathers and the positive effect of that role on their professional lives. WMM called for equal recognition for working mothers.

  - WMM also participated regularly in the NGO Committee on Ageing. WMM is promoting the right of mothers to a decent pension, an issue that was specifically referred to during the 2002 World Assembly on Ageing in Madrid.

Brussels

- 2001

  - Third United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries (14-20 May)

WMM, together with other NGOs, made a statement in support of the 630 million people who are living in extreme poverty and enduring hunger.

WMM called for assistance that was better-targeted, based on available resources and economic infrastructures and that did not exclude women from the development process.

  - Preparatory meeting for the World Summit on Children

The WMM team put forward a number of recommendations, which were to be revisited by the delegations of Belgium and the European Union on the basis of the conclusions adopted by Belgium's Senate Committee.

  - WMM submitted its application for membership of the Platform of European Social NGOs to the European Commission.

- 2002

  - WMM is part of a focus group on the construction of Europe, the Permanent Forum of European Civil Society, and, through the intermediary of the "Human Rights" or "Fundamental Rights" group, submitted a proposal in support of motherhood.

– WMM approached Eurostat in order to ensure that European statistical information takes account of work done by parents in the home, in accordance with the 1995 Copenhagen Programme of Action (chap. III, para. 46).

• 2003

Participation in the activities of groups representing civil society (Permanent Forum of Civil Society and the European Movement) with a view to providing input to the Convention.

Those activities allowed for the inclusion in the text of a reference to the rights of the child, but not to the rights of the family.

WMM Europe also took part in the meetings of the Economic and Social Council.

Continued efforts in support of unremunerated work.

• 2004

Continued efforts to obtain a section devoted to unremunerated work in Europe.

– Approached the Committee on Women's Rights and the Committee on Social Affairs.

Paris, UNESCO

• 2001

Took part in working groups on women: women and the culture of peace, and the girl child.

Took part in joint programming committees: poverty, human rights and education.

UNESCO General Conference (November).

International NGO Conference (December).

• 2003

Thirty-second UNESCO General Conference (29 September-17 October).

NGO General Conference, attended on an exceptional basis by Shirin Ebadi, Nobel Peace Prize Laureate (December).

Participation in other conferences

• 2002

Second World Assembly on Ageing (8-12 April).

WMM attended the Assembly and raised many issues, such as the feminization of poverty among older persons (lower salaries for women, interruption of their careers for family reasons), that justify its work with mothers. The crucial importance of the family was highlighted frequently during the Assembly.

Second National Congress of the Association of Tunisian Mothers, Tunis (7-13 August).

• 2004

– Within the framework of the tenth anniversary of the International Year of the Family:

– "L'avenir depend aussi des plus de 55 ans" (The future also depends on people over 55), Paris (2-3 March)

Forum organized by the Ministry of Health, attended by the Ecole des Grands-Parents Europeens (European School for Grandparents) (EGPE) and WMM France and WMM Europe, grandparents' generation. Three speakers from WMM.

– WMM attended:

– Third World Congress of Families, Mexico (29-31 March)

– Ministerial Conference: Families, Change and Social Policy in Europe, Dublin (13-14 May)

– International Conference for the Family to mark the tenth anniversary of the International Year of the Family, Doha (29-30 November)

– European Ministerial Conference: Families and the Future, Berlin (2 December)

Activities carried out by WMM to promote peace

Within the framework of the UNESCO Decade for a Culture of Peace, WMM decided to focus its activities on that issue by making a special effort to raise awareness among women and mothers of their active role in peacebuilding, on the basis of United Nations Security Council resolution 1325 (2000).

• 2001

– Visit to the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) (15 June)

NATO hosted WMM and its member associations for a study day, thereby allowing them to better understand the challenges connected with the geopolitical situation of recent years, in which fragmentation of conflicts is a significant factor. That situation requires more active cooperation with NGOs like WMM.

• 2002

– Second Global Forum for Law Enforcement and National Security (LE&NS), London (11-13 June)

WMM attended this meeting: mothers must teach their children to deal with the challenges and uncertainties caused by globalization.

– Designed a conference taking a practical and concrete approach to peacebuilding activities that women and mothers could carry out in all areas of their lives: personal, family, social and political.

• 2003

– WMM declaration: "Do not go to war in Iraq" (March)

– Prepared and organized the conference entitled "How can mothers be agents of peace?" at the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA), Beirut (15-16 October)

This conference made it possible to initiate very fruitful dialogue among the various Lebanese communities and establish a Lebanese branch of WMM, whose objective is to implement the recommendations of the conference.

– Acceptance of WMM's application to organize, in partnership with NATO, two advanced research workshops in 2004. See below for details.

• 2004

Workshop in Smolenice, Slovak Republic (4-6 March)

"Developing strategies to deal with trauma in children and adolescents in countries bordering the NATO zone with a view to guaranteeing the social stability necessary to rehabilitate and rebuild after conflicts or attacks".

This workshop was attended by experts from more than 19 countries and many members of WMM. Case study: the implementation in Serbia of a strategy to deal with post-war trauma in young people between the ages of 12 and 15. The study was designed to serve as a model for similar situations.

Specific proposals were formulated with a view to ensuring that the adults of tomorrow would be well-balanced and take responsibility for the future of their country.

WMM Serbia is seeking funding for the implementation of those proposals.

– Workshop in Chisinau, Republic of Moldova (25-27 March)

"Security and social consequences of human trafficking"

This workshop highlighted the seriousness of the situation facing would-be immigrants choosing to break the law because of the complexity of official procedures, consequent organ theft, reprehensible sexual acts, intolerable working conditions, etc.

The seriousness of the situation must be highlighted, both in the country of origin and at the international level.

Thanks to the active involvement of the Moldovan Government, 4 of the 20 proposals put forward by WMM have already been considered:

– Need for preventive measures at the regional level — in partnership with Ukraine, border guards are currently being trained;

– Establishment of a database to measure emigration in real time;

– Raising the awareness of the Moldovan diaspora with a view to mobilizing support for trafficking victims;

– Need for more active cooperation with the European Union. To that end, an international conference was held.

The publications relating to those workshops are currently being prepared.

5. World Vision International

General consultative status granted in 2004

Area of Activity:

World Vision International (WVI) is a partnership of inter-dependent Christian non-governmental organisations sharing a common mission to end suffering, poverty and injustice so that children and poor communities can realize their God-given potential. WVI's humanitarian efforts are community-based, child-focused, and available to those in need, regardless of race, gender, ethnic background or religious belief. In 2004, WVI served 100 million people in 96 countries, directly benefiting 2.4 million children. WVI raised US$1.546 billion cash and goods for its work and employed 22,500 staff members worldwide[1]. Specific areas of work include:

a. Community-based, sustainable transformational development, focused especially on the needs of children
b. Emergency relief assisting people afflicted by conflict or natural disasters
c. Promotion of justice that seeks to change unjust structures affecting the poor among whom we work
d. Public awareness that leads to informed understanding, giving, involvement and prayer
e. Partnerships with faith-based community organisations, especially churches, which contribute to spiritual and social transformation

Constitution or By-Laws: Same since 1992

Participation in the work of ECOSOC & Its Subsidiary Bodies and Initiatives:

Policy

Between 2003-2005 WVI actively participated in the Commission on the Status of Women. In 2004 a written statement was provided on *The Role of Men & Boys in Achieving Gender Equality* and in 2005 (49th Session) the statement was on *Current Challenges and Forward-Looking Strategies for the Advancement and Empowerment of Women and Girls*. At the 61st session of the UN Commission on Human Rights, WVI delivered a statement under item 13, outlining proposals for the *Abduction of Children in Africa* resolution, and addressing on-going concern for the situation of children. WV participated side events, and organized panels on children in conflict with the law and on the UN Study on children and violence. WVI cooperated closely with the Special Rapporteurs on the right to health; the right to education; and on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography. In collaboration with UNICEF, ILO, UNFPA, WFP, the World Bank and UNESCO, WVI is on the Advisory Committee of the UN Girls Education Initiative (UNGEI) http://www.ungei.org/ . WVI has held regional consultations for the UN Study on Violence Against Children which is a joint collaboration between UNICEF, WHO & OHCHR http://www.violencestudy.org/r25 . WVI has been and continues to be an active member of the Expanded Inter-Agency Technical Team for Children Affected by HIV and AIDS involved in monitoring progress towards implementation of UNGASS

[1] World Vision International, 2004 Annual Review, Life in all its Fullness

commitments 65-67 WVI has advocated for endorsement of the *UNAIDS UNICEF Framework for the Protection, Care and Support of Orphans and Vulnerable Children (OVC) Living in a World with HIV and AIDS*, urging global leaders to (i) endorse this framework, (ii) make specific policy commitments needed to implement it, and (iii) agree to contribute towards this goal by committing a significant amount of their HIV/AIDS funding to protection, care and support for OVC.

Operations

WVI works closely with WFP in the distribution of food in situations of man made conflicts or natural disasters as well as provides school feeding programmes in rural schools[1]. WVI continues to work on a former project of the UN Office on Drugs and Crime in Uzbekistan, on a multi-sector project on HIV/AIDS, drug abuse and sexually transmitted diseases (STDs)[2]. WVI provided over US$100 million in Tsunami assistance through food and non-food items, child friendly spaces, shelter, water and sanitation, health clinics, distributed school kits to primary schools, economic recovery and trained communities on disaster preparedness[3] in close cooperation with UN agencies. Other operational highlights include: UNDP Russian Federation completion of a rehabilitation project[4], UNHCR refugee projects in Great Lakes[5], ILO IPEC child domestic labour programme in Haiti[6], FAO and other UN agencies in Mauritania on locust infestation in the region[7]. WV International is currently managing 332,652 metric tons of food from WFP valued at approximately USD 188 million (October 2004 to July 2005).

Major Conferences and other UN Meetings (Indicate date & Title):

- United Nations General Assembly Special Session on HIV/AIDS, New York, 25-27 June 2001

WVI lobbied for articles 65-67 in the Declaration specifically dealing with *Children Orphaned and Made Vulnerable by HIV/AIDS*. Dean Hirsch addressed the Global Partners Forum on Orphans and Vulnerable Children (December 2004) on *How to Get Funds to Communities in Need*.

- UN General Assembly Special Session on Children, New York, 8-10 May 2002

WVI had over thirty people including four children who attended the side events and one child from Colombia, who addressed the General Assembly.

[1] http://www.reliefweb.int/rw/RWB.NSF/db900SID/SODA-6C3429?OpenDocument

http://www.reliefweb.int/rw/rwb.nsf/AllDocsByUNID/a899e2940ecc36b0a525b0d8008ec536

[2] http://www.irinnews.org/report.asp?ReportID=47991&SelectRegion=Central_Asia&SelectCountry=UZBEKISTAN

[3] See Briefing Paper 'World vision Tsunami Response: 6 Months On'

[4] http://moero.worldvision.org/news_article.php?newsID=667&countryID=34

[5] http://www.irinnews.org/report.asp?ReportID=39603&SelectRegion=Great_Lakes

[6] http://www.ilo.org/public/english/standards/ipec/about/factsheet/fact20.htm

[7] http://www.worldvision.it/News/Emergency_Appeals/FAO_Says_Crop_Losses_Estimated_at_50_Per_Cent.htm

- World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg
  26 August-4 September 2002

WVI sent a delegation of four people and a press briefing was given on food crisis in Southern Africa.

WVI actively participated at the

- DPI Annual Conferences, New York 2001-2004 as well as
- the World Bank Spring Meetings 2003-2005
- Participated with UNHCR over the last 4 years at both the NGO Pre EX Com meeting each September and the Executive Committee Meetings in early October.
- WVI attended many Standing Committee meetings during the reporting period and addressed them on several occasions on behalf of ICVA.

Organisation of Parallel NGO Meetings:

WV participated at the Global Civil Society Forum during the 21st session of the Governing Council, UNEP (Feb 2001).

Cooperation with Other Bodies or Specialised Agencies of the UN

In addition to ECOSOC and its programmes, funds and specialised agencies, WVI has provided valuable information to the UN Security Council through Arria Formulas. WVI prepared a briefing paper on Liberia for the Security Council Arria formula on Liberia[9]. World Vision has participated in other Arria Formula Briefings on the Sudan, Children and Armed Conflict, Food Crises, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, and Haiti, amongst others. WVI has partnered with MONUC to implement Quick Impact Projects[10]. WVI actively participates in the weekly OCHA- Inter Action meetings. As part of the coalition entitled, The Watchlist on Children and Armed conflict (CAC), WVI has advocated with the UN Security Council for the protection of CAC and provided information to the OSRSG for the preparation of Secretary-General's report on CAC and to the member states on resolutions 1379 (2001), 1460 (2003) and 1539 (2004).

Initiatives Undertaken to Support the Overall Goals and Objectives of the UN

WVI provided feedback and recommendations to the Report of the Panel of Eminent Persons on UN-Civil Society Relations (Cardoso Report), the *High Level Panel Report on Threats, Challenges & Change: Investing in Development* by the Millennium Project, In *Larger Freedom*. In preparation of the High Level Plenary Meeting for the 60th Session of the General Assembly, World Vision has provided specific language for the Outcome Document.

[9] Liberia Still Waiting, Humanitarian Briefing, February 2004 http://www.justice-and-peace.org/Policy Advocacy/publications/2.5 ms/all/reports/4CD96CC5-C5C9-4C5D-8A52-4A0B9A29C7D/pre Document

[10] http://www.monuc.org/Quips Building.aspx